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**URBAN DISTRICT  
OF KIRKBURTON**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health**

**For the Year 1955**

BY

**ERIC WARD**

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.



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1956

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# Kirkburton Urban District

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for the year 1955/56

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### Vice-Chairman:

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\*\*Chairman of the Public Health Committee

\*Member of the Public Health Committee

## PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

### Medical Officer of Health

ERIC WARD, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

### Deputy Medical Officer of Health

K. M. C. HAIGH, M.B., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G., C.P.H.  
(Appointed 17-1-55)

### Senior Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:

E. STANSFIELD, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

### Additional Sanitary Inspector:

W. RIDING, Cert.S.I.B.

Divisional Health Office,  
Woodville,  
Scar Lane,  
GOLCAR,  
Nr. Huddersfield.  
August, 1956.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Kirkburton Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my 9th Annual Report for the Kirkburton Urban District and the work of the Public Health Department during 1954. The report is the 16th in the series since the formation of the enlarged Urban District in 1938.

I am again indebted to your Senior Sanitary Inspector for the compilation of Sections III, IV and V, which deal with the Sanitary Circumstances of the Area, Housing and the Inspection and Supervision of Food. These Sections form the Sanitary Inspector's Report for the year.

Much of the year has been occupied with the preparation of the slum clearance programme under which the Council proposes to deal with 150 houses during the next 5 years.

As in previous years particulars are given in Section VII of the Report of the Services provided by the West Riding County Council as the Local Health and Education Authority.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population of the district at mid-1955 was 17,340, a decrease of 20 on the 1954 figure. The Adjusted Birth Rate of 13.41 shows an increase of 1.98 on the rate for the previous year, and the Adjusted Death Rate shows a further slight increase of 1.8 to 21.62. This very high figure is mainly due to the fact that the deaths of patients in Storthes Hall Hospital are now included in the local figures and are not transferred to the district of normal residence as was formerly the case. If the Storthes Hall Statistics are excluded, a modified rate of 13.64 per 1,000 of the population is obtained.

Again I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for their help and interest and to record my appreciation for the assistance and co-operation received from the Joint Clerks of the Council and from the other Chief Officials.

My thanks are particularly due to Mr. E. Stansfield, your Senior Sanitary Inspector, for his invaluable help and loyal service at all times most freely given.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

ERIC WARD,

Medical Officer of Health.

## SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

### 1. General Statistics

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	14,577
Enumerated Population (Census, 1951)	...	...	...	...	...	17,961
Registrar-General's Estimate of Population (middle of 1954)	...	...	...	...	...	17,360
Registrar-General's Estimate of Population (middle of 1955)	...	...	...	...	...	17,340
Average number of patients resident in 1955 at Storthes Hall Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	2,680
Estimate of Population (middle of 1955) excluding patients resident at Storthes Hall Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	14,660
Number of Inhabited Houses at end of 1955	...	...	...	...	...	5,296
Rateable Value (31st March, 1956)	...	...	...	...	...	£102,829
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (March, 1956)	...	...	...	...	...	£405

### 2. Extracts from Vital Statistics

<b>Live Births:</b>				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	100	96	196
Illegitimate	...	...	...	4	4	8
Total				104	100	204
Crude Birth rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population						11.76
Adjusted Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population						13.41
<b>Still Births:</b>				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	4	2	6
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total				4	2	6

Rate per 1,000 of total (live and still) births: 28.57

<b>Deaths</b>	...	...	...	(Males 194, Females 242)	436
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population					25.14
Adjusted Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population					21.62
Deaths from Puerperal Causes					Nil

### **Birth and Death Rates excluding figures relative to Storthes Hall Hospital**

If the average number of patients resident at the Storthes Hall Hospital was excluded from the Registrar-General's estimate of population, and the births and deaths occurring there were also excluded, the Crude Birth and Death Rates for the District would be as follows:—

Birth Rate ... 13.92      Death Rate ... 13.64

### **Number of Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:**

			Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	2	1	3
Illegitimate	...	...	1	—	1
Total			3	1	4

### **Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age**

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	19.61
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	15.31
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	125.00

### **Death Rate per 1,000 population from:**

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	...	...	...	0.35
All forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	0.35
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	2.25
Cancer	...	...	...	2.54

Infective and Parasitic Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis but including Syphilis and other V.D.)				...	0.29
Deaths from Measles (all ages)				...	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (children under 2 years of age)				...	Nil
Death Rate from Diarrhoea and Enteritis of children under 2 years of age per 1,000 births				...	Nil



## Section 1

# STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

The Kirkburton Urban District was formed under the Yorkshire West Riding County Review of 1938, by the amalgamation of the former Urban Districts of Flockton, Kirkburton, Kirkheaton, Lepton, Shelley, Shepley, Thurstonland and Farnley Tyas, and Whitley Upper, these districts now forming the 8 wards.

The District is mainly Rural in character, and the chief sources of employment are agriculture and textiles, with some coal mining and light industry.

## VITAL STATISTICS

### Population

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population at mid-1955 was 17,340 as compared with 17,360 at mid-1954. These figures include the patients and resident staff of Storthes Hall Hospital. The daily average number of in-patients in the hospital during the year was 2,680.

### Comparability Factors

Area comparability factors in respect of Births and Deaths have been supplied by the Registrar-General, and for your district these are 1.14 and 0.86 respectively. These are factors by which the crude birth and death rates should be multiplied in order to make them truly comparable with the rates for other areas.

The need for such adjustment is occasioned by the differences in the constitution of area populations as regards the proportions of their sex and age group components. The fact that your district has a comparability factor of 0.86 for deaths shows that the population contains a higher proportion of elderly people than the average area, which would in all probability result in a high crude death rate, despite the general health conditions of the population being good. The factor of 1.14 for births shows that the proportion of women in the maternal age groups is less than in the average area.

### Births

After adjustment for inward and outward transferable births, a net total of 204 live births (104 male, 100 female) was registered in the District during the year, an increase of 30 compared with the previous year.

The ADJUSTED BIRTH RATE is 13.41 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 11.43 for the previous year, 15.0 for England and Wales, 15.4 for the West Riding Administrative County, and 14.9 for the Aggregate West Riding Urban Districts.

The illegitimate live births numbered 8 or 3.92% of the total live births, an increase of 2 compared with the previous year.



## Stillbirths

After adjustment for transfers, 6 stillbirths were registered during the year, a decrease of 3 compared with the previous year. This figure gives a rate of 28.57 per 1,000 live and stillbirths, and 0.35 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 49.18 and 0.52 respectively for 1954.

## Deaths

After correction for inward and outward transferable deaths, the net total deaths registered in and assigned to the District was 436 (194 male, and 242 female), an increase of 36 on the total for the year 1954.

The ADJUSTED DEATH RATE is 21.62 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 19.82 for the previous year.

The procedure in connection with the transfer of vital events occurring in "long-stay" hospitals was changed as from the 1st January, 1953, with the result that all deaths occurring in the Storthes Hall Hospital are now assignable to your district. In consequence the effect on the death rate is such as to render it practically valueless for comparison with those of other areas, and with that of your district for previous years.

A modified death rate figure has been obtained, therefore, by

- (a) Subtracting the average number of patients resident in Storthes Hall Hospital from the estimated population of the District supplied by the Registrar-General.
- (b) Subtracting the number of deaths registered as occurring in Storthes Hall Hospital from the number of deaths for your District as supplied by the Registrar-General and calculating on the net figures.

The modified death rate is 13.64 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 13.04 for the previous year.

The following were the principal causes of death in order of frequency.

(i)	Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System ...	194
(ii)	Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions ... ..	64
(iii)	Malignant Neoplasms ... ..	44
(iv)	Diseases of Respiratory System ... ..	39

These 4 causes accounted for 78.21% of the total deaths. Particulars of the various causes of death and of the age and sex distribution are given in the following table.

Causes of Death		Sex	All Ages	0-	1-	2-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75-
All Causes ... ..		M	194	3	1			3	1	10	32	44	57	43
		F	242	1			1			7	21	45	73	94
1 Tuberculosis, respira- tory ... ..		M	5							2	1	2		
		F	1								1			
2 Tuberculosis, other ...		M												
		F												
3 Syphilitic disease ...		M	3									2	1	
		F	2								1	1		
4 Diphtheria ... ..		M												
		F												
5 Whooping Cough ...		M												
		F												
6 Meningococcal infec- tions ... ..		M												
		F												
7 Acute poliomyelitis ...		M												
		F												
8 Measles .. ...		M												
		F												
9 Other infective and parasitic diseases ...		M												
		F												
10 Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..		M	2								1		1	
		F	3										1	2
11 Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...		M	8							1	2	3		2
		F	2								1		1	
12 Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..		M												
		F	3								1	1		1
13 Malignant neoplasm, uterus ... ..		M												
		F	1									1		
14 Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...		M	9							1	1	1	2	4
		F	13								4	3	4	2
15 Leukaemia, aleukaemia		M	2									1	1	
		F	1				1							
16 Diabetes ... ..		M												
		F	2							1			1	
17 Vascular lesions of ner- vous system ... ..		M	21								4	5	8	4
		F	43							1		8	18	16
18 Coronary disease, angina ... ..		M	22								6	7	3	6
		F	25								6	4	12	3
19 Hypertension with heart disease ... ..		M	2									3		1
		F	4											
20 Other heart disease ...		M	48							2	2	9	20	15
		F	73							1	1	8	21	42
21 Other circulatory dis- ease ... ..		M	6									1	3	2
		F	14								1	3	3	7
22 Influenza ... ..		M	2								1	1		
		F	1											1
23 Pneumonia ... ..		M	6		1						1		2	2
		F	9									4	3	2
24 Bronchitis ... ..		M	12								2	5	2	3
		F	5								1	2	1	1
25 Other diseases of respir- atory system ... ..		M	3										3	
		F	1										1	
26 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..		M	2								2			
		F	1									1		
27 Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea ... ..		M	2									1	1	
		F												
28 Nephritis and nephrosis		M	5								2	2	1	
		F	4									1	2	1
29 Hyperplasia of prostate		M	1											1
		F												
30 Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..		M												
		F												
31 Congenital malforma- tions ... ..		M	2	1								1		
		F												
32 Other defined and ill- defined diseases ...		M	25	2				2	1	4	6	3	5	2
		F	26	1						3	4	2	5	11
33 Motor vehicle accidents		M	1										1	
		F												
34 All other accidents ...		M	5					1			1		3	
		F	7							1		2		4
35 Suicide ... ..		M												
		F												
36 Homicide and operations of war ... ..		M	1									1		
		F												

## Maternal Deaths and Mortality

There were no deaths from Puerperal Sepsis or other maternal causes.

## Infant Mortality

After correction for transferable deaths there were 4 deaths (3 male, 1 female) of infants under 1 year of age, a decrease of one compared with the previous year. All these infants were under 4 weeks of age.

The INFANT MORTALITY RATE is 19.61 per 1,000 live births as compared with 28.74 for the previous year.

The death rate amongst legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births is 15.31 as compared with 29.76 for the year 1954.

One illegitimate child died under 1 year of age, giving a death rate amongst illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births of 125.00.

## Comparative Statistics

	Kirkburton Urban District	Aggregate West Riding Urban Districts	West Riding Admin. County	England and Wales (provisional figures)
<b>BIRTH RATE</b>				
Per 1,000 estimated population ... (crude)	11.76	14.8	15.3	15.0
do. (adjusted)	13.41	14.9	15.4	—
<b>DEATH RATES</b>				
All per 1,000 estimated population				
All Causes (Crude) ...	25.14	12.5	11.7	11.7
All Causes (Adjusted) ...	21.62	12.7	12.3	—
Infective and Parasitic Diseases (excl. T.B.) ...	0.29	0.06	0.07	*
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	0.35	0.11	0.11	0.13
Other forms of Tuberculosis Respiratory Diseases (ex- cluding Tuberculosis of respiratory system) ...	—	0.02	0.01	0.02
Cancer ...	2.25	1.28	1.21	*
Heart and Circulatory Diseases ...	2.54	2.03	1.90	2.06
... ..	11.19	4.71	4.39	*
<b>INFANT MORTALITY</b> ...	19.61	25.2	26.2	24.9
<b>DIARRHOEA</b>				
Deaths of infants under 2 years of age per 1,000 live births ...	Nil	*	*	*
<b>MATERNAL MORTALITY</b>				
Puerperal Sepsis ...	Nil	*	*	*
Other Causes ...	Nil	*	*	*
Total ...	Nil	0.45	0.67	0.64

\* Figures not available.

## Section II

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

#### Staff

The Medical Officer of Health is a part time officer of the Council, but is engaged whole-time on public health work, being also Medical Officer of Health for the Urban Districts of Colne Valley, Denby Dale, Holmfirth, Meltham and Saddleworth, and Divisional Medical Officer of Division 20 of the West Riding, which is composed of the 6 Urban Districts of which he is Medical Officer of Health.

By arrangement with the County Council one of the Senior Assistant County Medical Officers holds the appointment of Deputy Medical Officer of Health.

In addition to the Medical Officer of Health the staff consists of a full-time Senior Sanitary Inspector, an additional Sanitary Inspector and a male clerk. The department also has the joint services of the junior clerks for special typing work.

#### Laboratory Facilities

All the bacteriological laboratory work required by the Health department and by General Practitioners is carried out at the Wakefield Laboratory of the Public Health Laboratory Service, whilst samples of water for chemical examination are sent to the laboratories of Messrs. Richardson and Jaffe, Public Analysts, Bradford.

#### Ambulance Facilities

##### (a) Cases of Infectious Diseases

The ambulance of the Isolation Hospital to which the patient is admitted is used for the removal of the patient.

##### (b) Cases of Sickness and Accident

An Ambulance Service is operated by the West Riding County Council, the Kirkburton Urban District being in Ambulance Area No. 18. The depot for the area is situated at Banney Royd, Halifax Road, Huddersfield (Tel. No. Huddersfield 1255/6).

#### Professional Nursing in the Home

**General.** Home nursing is undertaken by 3 nurses employed by the West Riding County Council and resident at Lepton, Kirkburton, and Shelley.

**Midwifery.** There is one full-time midwife employed by the West Riding County Council and resident at Lepton. The two home nurses resident at Kirkburton and Shelley are also practising midwives.

Further details of the nursing services provided in the area will be found in Section VII of this report.

## **Treatment Centres, Clinics and Hospitals**

### **Infant Welfare Centres**

Held weekly on Tuesday afternoon at Kirkburton and on Thursday afternoon at Lepton.

### **Ante-Natal Clinics**

Held monthly on the 3rd Thursday afternoon in the month at Lepton.

### **School Clinics**

No special School Clinics are held in the District but school-children are seen at all Infant Welfare Clinic sessions.

All Kirkburton Clinics are held in the Drill Hall, Kirkburton, and the Lepton Clinics in Greaves House, Lepton (the former Lepton Council Offices).

### **Chest Clinic**

Held daily at 1 Peel Street, Huddersfield, but a prior appointment is necessary.

### **Venereal Diseases Clinics**

Held at York Place, New North Road, Huddersfield; Clayton Hospital, Wakefield; and the General Infirmary, Dewsbury.

### **Hospitals**

- (a) **Infectious Diseases.** Cases of infectious diseases other than Smallpox are treated at the Mill Hill Isolation Hospital, Huddersfield. Accommodation for cases of Smallpox is provided by the Leeds Regional Hospital Board at the Oakwell Smallpox Hospital, Birstall.

- (b) **General Hospitals**

Huddersfield Royal Infirmary

County General Hospital, Wakefield.

- (c) **Maternity:** Arrangements are made for the admission of patients to the Princess Royal Maternity Home, Huddersfield, and various general hospitals.



### Section III

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### Water Supply

The principal sources of piped water are the undertakings of the Huddersfield Corporation and the Dewsbury and Heckmondwike Joint Water Works Board.

The Huddersfield supply serves Kirkburton, Lepton, Shelley, Shepley and Thurstonland and Farnley Tyas Wards, the supply being distributed by the Huddersfield Corporation except at Thurstonland, where a large proportion is supplied through mains which are the property of the Urban District Council. All the water is filtered and chlorinated at the Corporation's Waterworks before distribution, and 4,473 houses have a direct supply from the Corporation's and Urban District Council's mains.

The water supply to the higher parts of Lepton which proved grossly inadequate during 1954 has been considerably improved by the laying of a new 6" main by Huddersfield Corporation from Kirkburton to Lepton. It is anticipated that this supply will be further improved by the relaying of the water main at Riley Lane, Kirkburton. This work was nearing completion at the end of the year. Twelve houses at Shepley and 4 at Shelley previously relying upon water from private supplies have been connected to the Corporation's mains during the year.

The Dewsbury and Heckmondwike supply serves the Flockton and Whitley Upper Wards, the water being purchased in bulk and distributed by the Council. The unfiltered water, after chlorination by the Water Works Board, is received into a covered tank and pumped to two storage reservoirs having a total capacity of 106,000 gallons. Water from these reservoirs is supplied to 660 occupied houses and has been adequate throughout the year.

In addition to the above, 5 houses are supplied direct by Dewsbury and Heckmondwike Joint Waterworks Board and 3 by Denby Dale Urban District Council.

During the year only one sample of the Dewsbury and Heckmondwike public supply was taken for bacteriological examination. This was reported as satisfactory.

At the end of the year 121 houses, 85 in Thurstonland and Farnley Tyas, 24 in Shepley, 7 in Shelley, 1 in Whitley Upper, 1 in Kirkburton and 3 in Lepton, were known to have a piped supply from private sources whilst 34 houses, 11 in Kirkheaton, 8 in Shepley, 4 in Shelley, 10 in Thurstonland and Farnley Tyas, and 1 in Kirkburton, depend on wells and springs for their supplies. Two houses with private supplies (1 at Kirkburton and 1 at Kirkheaton) were not previously recorded.

During the year 34 samples were taken from the various private supplies for bacteriological examination. The reports showed that 24 were satisfactory, 5 were of doubtful quality and 5 were unsatisfactory for domestic use.

## Drainage and Sewerage

There are 7 sewage disposal works in the District, these being at Flockton, Kirkburton, Kirkheaton, Lepton, Shelley and Whitley Upper (2 works). The Kirkburton works serve Thurstonland and Farnley Tyas as well as Kirkburton, whilst the others serve only the wards in which they are situated.

At the Kirkburton Works a further 70 ft. diameter percolating filter has been completed in addition to the 3 new humus tanks completed during the early part of the year. A Lee Recorder was also installed at these works.

In addition to the above works, the Council own some septic tanks mostly receiving sink waste drainage. Whilst some of these tanks are in poor condition, one at Colne Bridge has been overhauled during the year.

The majority of the built up areas are sewered, but there are several areas which still require sewerage and parts of the area where there is need for improvement. The Council have agreed upon a scheme for carrying out necessary works during the next 10 years.

The only sewer extensions completed during the year was at Providential Street, Flockton where 110 yards of 6" sewer was laid.

The total number of houses where sink water drainage is not discharging to properly constructed sewers is 1,024. Details of drainage of these houses are as follows:—

	Flockton	Kirkburton	Kirkheaton	Shepley	Shelley	Lepton	Whitley Upper	Thurstonland and Farnley Tyas	TOTALS
Drainage to S. W. Sewers with outlets to streams ... ..	40	72	25	2	13	89	3	6	250
Drainage to S.W. Sewers where discharge is indefinite ... ..	44	4	37	8	23	27	27	24	194
Drainage to ditches ... ..	7	—	—	—	2	5	—	—	14
Drainage to fields ... ..	25	25	50	9	10	28	27	23	197
Drainage direct to streams ...	9	29	22	3	21	14	33	3	134
To Cesspools:—									
Houses ... ..	18	26	31	16	37	38	20	14	200
Cesspools ... ..	(14)	(19)	(17)	(11)	(25)	(21)	(14)	(16)	(127)
To Tanks and Filters:—									
Houses ... ..	4	5	5	4	7	2	3	5	35
Tanks and Filters ... ..	(3)	(1)	(3)	(1)	(5)	(2)	(3)	(1)	(19)
Totals ... ..	147	161	170	42	113	203	113	75	1024

In addition there is a cesspool at Flockton to which 4 W.C's at a Caravan site are connected.

There are 39 sumps which are known to receive drainage from agricultural premises, in addition to which there are a number of sumps where the farm dwellings or part of the farm buildings drain to the sewer.



## Rivers and Streams

The major pollution of watercourses is from 384 houses which discharge direct to streams, or via surface water sewers. In addition to such sink waste pollution there may be a small amount of pollution from overflows or effluents from domestic sewerage plants, or from the contamination of subsoil water draining to the watercourses.

There is little pollution of watercourses from industrial premises. A number of Agreements have been entered into between the Council and various industrial undertakings for treatment of trade waste at the Council's Sewage Works.

## Closet Accommodation

The closet accommodation provided for many of the houses and other premises in the district is very unsatisfactory. There are in the District 5,153 closets, of which 958 or 18.5 per cent are of the privy midden type. In addition there are 89 pail closets. Of the 1,047 privies and pail closets, 303 appear to be within reasonable distance of existing sewers, these including those at Roydhouse where the sufficiency of the sewerage system is questionable. It is estimated that 100 of these privies are serving premises which are likely to be demolished when slum clearance is resumed, hence there were at the end of the year approximately 203 privies, etc., which might be required to be converted under the provisions of Section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

During the year 39 water closets were provided in substitution for 29 privies at domestic premises, 7 additional water closets were provided for existing houses whilst 154 water closets were constructed for new houses.

In an effort to encourage owners to substitute water closets for privies the Council give a grant of £9 for each privy abolished and supply a dustbin to each of the dwelling houses affected.

Particulars of the distribution of the privies and pail closets in the various Wards are shown in the following table.

	Flockton	Kirkburton	Kirkheaton	Shepley	Shelley	Lepton	Whitley Upper	Farnley Tyas	Thurstonland	Whole Urban District
Houses using privies ... ..	199	239	234	64	122	207	90	49	34	1238
Privies provided for above	157	174	173	52	103	136	70	41	27	933
Houses using pails, etc. ...	17	3	10	1	2	27	4	4	7	76
Pails etc. provided for above ... ..	20	3	9	1	1	22	4	3	7	70
Non-domestic premises using privies ... ..	1	1	2	2	2	3	2	—	—	13
Privies provided for above	2	2	3	3	4	4	7	—	—	25
Non-domestic premises using pails, etc.	1	3	—	—	—	2	—	2	1	9
Pails etc. provided for above ... ..	1	8	—	—	—	2	—	6	2	19
Total number of privies ...	159	176	176	55	107	140	77	41	27	958
Total number of pails, etc.	21	11	9	1	1	24	4	9	9	89
Ashpits ... ..	—	—	2	2	1	3	—	—	—	8

## Public Cleansing

The emptying of privies and pail closets and the collection of household refuse is undertaken by the Council throughout the district, the whole of the work being done under the supervision of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

### Refuse Collection

Of the 5,296 occupied houses in the district 4,054 are provided with dustbins. The equivalent of 100 bin loads of refuse is removed each period of emptying from trade premises. As most of this could be classed as house refuse no charge is made for its collection.

Two Karrier Bantam 7 cubic yard refuse collecting vehicles are employed full-time on the work of refuse collection (dustbins) and emptying of pail closets. A third 7 cubic yard vehicle and a 2 cubic yard vehicle are mainly employed in the emptying of privy closets and ash-pits the larger vehicle having been engaged on dustbin emptying work for approximately one day each week.

In February and August the Council had working demonstrations of Karrier "Gamecock" and "Dual-tip" refuse vehicles. These proved unsuitable and a further Karrier Bantam (7 cubic yard) refuse vehicle was ordered in September for delivery during the early part of 1956.

The frequency of dustbin emptying has varied during the year between 8 and 16 days in Lepton and Kirkheaton Wards, and between 10 and 16 days in the Shepley, Shelley and Kirkburton Wards. A weekly service has been maintained in the Flockton and Grange Moor Wards and in part of Farnley Tyas. The frequency of privy emptying has varied between 4 and 6 weeks.

### Refuse Disposal

The whole of the domestic refuse (including refuse from pail and privy closets) is disposed of at the following sites:—

- (a) Healey Green Tip, Houses Hill, Kirkheaton  
(Controlled tip for the Lepton and Kirkheaton districts).
- (b) Leys Quarry Tip, Grangemoor  
(Crude Tip for the Flockton and Grange Moor districts).
- (c) Shelley Sewerage Works, Thunderbridge  
(Crude Tip for the Kirkburton, Shepley and Shelley districts).
- (d) Quarry Tip, Farnley Tyas  
(Crude Tip for the Farnley Tyas and Thurstonland districts).

A small amount of privy refuse is tipped on land at Linfit Lane, Kirkburton.

Efforts are still being made to acquire a tipping site in the Sovereign area of the Shepley Ward.

The Red Hill Tip at Kirkburton has been abandoned and it is anticipated that the site will be levelled and soiled over during the early part of 1956.

## Salvage

The Senior Sanitary Inspector, who is the Salvage Officer, has supplied the following information regarding the Salvage Scheme.

All salvaged material is collected along with house refuse and delivered to the Salvage Depot, Kirkburton, where one man is engaged for approximately three-quarters of his time in baling paper, sorting and baling rags, etc.

The following materials were sold during the year:—

	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Mixed Paper .....	101	18	2	—	843	9	9
Rags .....	—	4	3	13	6	16	3
Sacking .....	—	2	3	6	1	5	3
String .....	—	8	1	24	4	4	8
	102	14	2	15	855	15	11

## Scavenging Statistics

Motor Loads of dustbin refuse collected ... ..	2,031
Motor Loads of privy refuse collected (2 Cu. yd.)	1,516
Motor Loads of privy refuse collected (7 Cu. yd.)	668 2,184

## Weight of dustbin refuse collected:—

2,031 Motor Loads at 2 tons ... ..	4,062
------------------------------------	-------

## Weight of privy refuse collected:—

668 Motor Loads at 2 tons ... ..	1,336
1,516 Small Motor Loads at 12 cwts. ... ..	909 2,245
	Total Tons 6,307

Total cost of collection and disposal ... ..	£8,861
Cost per ton of refuse ... ..	£1 8 1
Cost per 1,000 population (excluding Storthes Hall Hospital)	£604

## Shops Acts

There are now 169 shops in the district (excluding 37 Public Houses). No action has been taken during the year under Section 38 of the Shops Act, 1950.

## Smoke Abatement

During the year 10 observations of smoke emissions from factory chimneys were taken, one for a period of one hour and 9 for periods of 30 minutes. No nuisance was recorded.

## Camping Sites

A total of 6 licences were issued during 1955, authorising the stationing of single caravans, under the provisions of Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. One site licence was issued in 1952 for the stationing of 8 caravans. All six licenced moveable dwellings were in use at the end of 1955, in addition to 8 on the licenced site.

## Swimming Baths

There are no public or privately owned baths in the District.

## Regulated Buildings and Offensive Trades

There are no Common Lodging Houses or Houses Let in Lodgings in the District.

There are 2 premises registered as Offensive Trades — one for glue and size making and one for tripe boiling.

## Rag, Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951

There are no “Licensed” or “Registered” premises in the district.

## The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Rodent work is carried out in accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and close liaison exists between the Sanitary Inspector and the Officers of the Ministry.

As the Council's Rodent Operative is also engaged part-time on work of baling of waste paper, the amount of time he has available for the work of rodent destruction is limited. The following is a summary of disinfestation work carried out during the year.

### Sewer Maintenance

Manholes in area capable of baiting				...	...	...	...	526
				Baits Laid	Poison Baits Laid	Takes Complete	Partial	
(a)	Test Baiting	...	...	61	—	7	1	
(b)	1st Treatment	...	...	66	31	—	22	
	2nd Treatment	...	...	50	26	3	20	

### Premises

(a)	Sewerage Works:—						
	Sorexas	...	...	—	27	—	21
	Sewer Blocks	...	...	—	14	—	12
	Bait and Poison	...	...	32	25	—	17
(b)	Refuse Tips, etc.	...	...	68	45	3	34
(c)	Agricultural (Sorexas)	...	...	—	52	—	36
(d)	Schools and Canteens:—						
	Mice Sorexas	...	...	—	15	—	12
	Rats Sorexas	...	...	—	5	—	4
(e)	Business Premises:—						
	Mice Sorexas	...	...	—	12	—	12
	Rats Sorexas	...	...	—	63	—	52
(f)	Domestic Premises:—						
	Sorexas	...	...	—	33	—	23
	Bait and Poison	...	...	6	6	1	5
(g)	Streams and Ditches:—						
	Sorexas	...	...	—	23	—	14
	Bait and Poison	...	...	67	51	—	35

## Eradication of Bed Bugs

During the year 12 houses were found to be badly infested with cockroaches and 1 with fleas. The infestations in these cases were treated by the use of Gammexane Smoke Generators and liquid insecticide.

There is no H.C.M. Plant in the District. If gas was employed for disinfection work it would be necessary to engage the services of contractors who specialise in fumigation work.

## Factories Act, 1937

The following is an extract from Form 572 submitted to the Director of Statistics of the Ministry of Labour:—

### 1. Inspections for Purposes of Provisions as to Health.

Premises	No. on Register	Insp'tions	Written Notices	Owners Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	16	—	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	84	3	—	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	—	—	—	—
Total	100	3	—	—

### 2. Cases in which Defects were Found.

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Prosecutions
Want of cleanliness:	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences				
(a) Insufficient ... ..	1	—	1	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ... ..	1	1	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) ... ..	—	—	—	—
Total	2	1	2	—

### 3. Outworkers

There are in the District 118 outworkers, 96 being employed in the making of fireworks cases, 16 as menders by various textile firms, and 6 as rug makers.



## Schools

There are 15 schools in the District, including 1 secondary modern school.

### Sanitary Inspection of the Area

Complaints received ... ..	38
Informal Notices served ... ..	45
Informal Notices complied with ... ..	59

#### Visits made in connection with:—

Accumulations ... ..	10
Ashes accommodation ... ..	29
Bakehouses ... ..	5
Closet accommodation and urinals (including conversions)	105
Cesspools ... ..	4
Disinfestations ... ..	43
Drainage ... ..	221
Drain Tests ... ..	132
Outworkers ... ..	2
Factories ... ..	3
Housing (General) ... ..	242
Housing Survey ... ..	68
Housing (overcrowding) ... ..	52
Infectious Diseases and Disinfections ... ..	1338
Interviews ... ..	212
Meat and Food Premises ... ..	31
Meat inspections ... ..	103
Milk Regulations ... ..	11
Public Health (General) ... ..	203
Rats and Mice ... ..	139
Smoke observations ... ..	10
Samples of water ... ..	35
Samples of milk ... ..	213
Samples of Albumen ... ..	5
Shop Inspections ... ..	3
Scavenging and tipping ... ..	205
Salvage ... ..	34
Tents, vans and sheds ... ..	4
Verminous and filthy premises ... ..	31
Water supplies ... ..	75
Miscellaneous ... ..	432
Slaughtermen's Licences ... ..	13

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#### Summary of Sanitary Improvements carried out during the year:—

Ashpits abolished ... ..	2
Animal nuisances abated ... ..	1
Additional bathrooms for existing houses ... ..	12
Bins in lieu of ashpits ... ..	2
Bins provided for closet conversions ... ..	40
Bins renewed ... ..	132
Work to remedy damp conditions ... ..	2
Disinfestations ... ..	24
General drainage repairs (eavestroughs, fallpipes and sink waste) ... ..	11

Fireplaces and ovens repaired or renewed ... ..	5
Floors repaired ... ..	1
General woodwork repairs ... ..	1
Improved Sanitary accommodation for Public House ...	1
Sculleries provided or rebuilt for existing houses ...	6
Mains water in lieu of spring water ... ..	16
Miscellaneous nuisances abated ... ..	4
Obstructions removed from sewers and drains ... ..	2
Plaster repairs ... ..	4
Pointing repairs ... ..	2
Premises connected to sewer ... ..	3
Premises connected to Cesspools ... ..	2
Privies abolished ... ..	29
Privies repaired ... ..	3
New Sinks fixed ... ..	9
Roofs repaired ... ..	10
Windows repaired ... ..	3
W.C's. provided to replace privies ... ..	39
Additional W.C's. provided	
(a) existing houses ... ..	7
(b) new houses ... ..	154
Improved ventilation to shop ... ..	1

### Legal Proceedings

No Statutory Notices were served during the year.

### Bye-laws

The following are the only Bye-laws in operation in the District:—

- (a) Building Bye-laws made under the Public Health Act, 1936, and in operation from the 5th December, 1953.
- (b) Hackney Carriage Bye-laws made under Section 68 of the Town's Police Clauses Act, 1847, and Section 171 of the Public Health Act, 1875 in operation from the 1st December, 1949.
- (c) Food Bye-laws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 — in operation from the 3rd July, 1950.



## HOUSING

On the 4th August, 1955 the Council considered a Special Report on suggested proposals under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, and the following Minute was recorded:

“That the Slum Clearance Report submitted by the Medical Officer and the Senior Sanitary Inspector be approved, and that the Council endeavour to complete the programme within a period of 15 years at a rate of 30 houses per annum for the first five years.”

The following statistics were forwarded to the Ministry.

Total number of permanent dwellings in the Local Authorities area at 1—1—55	...	...	...	...	...	...	5167
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	------

**Part 1. The Total Problem**

- |      |  |     |     |     |
|------|--|-----|-----|-----|
| (i)  | Estimated number of houses unfit for human habitation within the meaning of Section 9 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 and suitable for action under Section 11 or Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936 | ... | ... | 535 |
| (ii) | Period in years which the Council think necessary for securing the demolition of all the houses in (1)...  | ... | ... | 15  |

**Part 2. Orders Already Made, etc.**

- |       |   |     |     |     |     |
|-------|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (iii) | Number of houses in (i) in clearance areas and already covered by operative clearance or compulsory purchase orders or owned by the Local Authority                               | ... | ... | ... | 4   |
| (iv)  | Number of houses which are already in clearance areas and for which clearance or compulsory purchase orders have been submitted to the Minister but have not yet become operative | ... | ... | ... | Nil |

**Part 3. Action in the First Five Years**

- |        |   |     |     |     |     |     |
|--------|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| (v)    | Number of houses which are already in clearance areas and for which clearance or compulsory purchase orders are to be made or which are to be purchased by agreement within the five years  | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| (vi)   | Number of houses which are to be included in clearance areas still to be declared and which within the five years will be owned by the Local Authority or will have been included in a clearance order or a compulsory purchase order submitted to the Minister | ... | ... | ... | ... | 110 |
| (vii)  | Number of houses under (iii), (iv), (v) and (vi) to be patched (if necessary) and retained within the five years under Section 2 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 for Temporary accommodation   | ... | ... | ... | ... | Nil |
| (viii) | Number of houses under (iii), (iv), (v) and (vi) to be demolished in the five years   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 90  |
| (ix)   | Number of houses (including those already comprised in operative demolition orders) to be demolished in the five years as a result of action under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 70  |

There were 5,197 occupied houses recorded on the 1956 Re-valuation list (this list made adjustments for changes of usage and properties unlikely to be re-occupied). In addition to these houses there are 6 dwellings rated as part of Clubs and 73 houses were completed between the compiling of the re-valuation list and the end of the year, hence the total number of occupied houses at the end of 1955 was 5,296.

Records confirm the existence of 17 houses which are subject to Demolition Orders, and 1 which is subject to a Closing Order. Of these, 10 are at present occupied as dwelling houses. Licences for the temporary occupation of 9 houses under Section 6 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 expired during the year (4 on the 28th February and 5 on the 30th June) but none have been issued during the year.

### Provision for New Houses

New houses completed during the year were as follows:—

	Municipal Houses	Private Enterprise Houses
Flockton .....	—	—
Grange Moor .....	4	—
Kirkburton .....	12	1
Kirkheaton .....	—	—
Lepton .....	18	105
Shelley .....	—	—
Shepley .....	16	1
Thurstonland & Farnley Tyas	—	—
	<hr/> 50 <hr/>	<hr/> 107 <hr/>

### Housing Statistics

#### 1. Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year:—

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	307
	(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose ...	784
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... ..	208
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	238
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	119
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	162

#### 2. Remedy of defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices:—

(a)	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ..	21
(b)	Number of defective dwelling-houses (excluding those shown in (a) above) in which defects were remedied as a result of informal action ... ..	78

### 3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	Nil
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices:	
(a)	By Owners ... ..	Nil
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which statutory notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	7
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices:	
(a)	By Owners ... ..	7
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil
(c)	Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1)	Number of representations, etc., made in respect of dwelling houses unfit for habitation ... ..	7
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... ..	2
(3)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... ..	5
(4)	Number of dwelling houses temporarily closed under Section 10 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953 ... ..	3
(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... ..	Nil

#### 4. Housing Act, 1936 — Part IV. Overcrowding

(a)	(1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... ..	18
	(2)	Number of families dwelling therein... ..	19
	(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein... ..	114
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ..	6
(c)	(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ..	6
	(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases ... ..	24

## 5. Housing Act, 1949

Number of houses inspected	included in	...	...	34
Number of visits	paragraph 1	...	...	40
Number of dwellings in connection with which formal applications were received during year		...	...	7
Number of dwellings to be (a) provided		...	...	Nil
(b) improved		...	...	7
Number of dwellings in respect of which approval was given (50% grant)		...	...	7
Number of dwellings actually (a) provided		...	...	Nil
(b) improved		...	...	2

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### Milk Supply

The Urban District Council is now only responsible for the registration and supervision of milk distributors and their premises, and for the issue of dealers' and supplementary licences to retail designated milk. Sampling for cleanliness is limited to milk in the course of delivery, but sampling for biological examination is also carried out at the farms.

At the end of the year there were 8 registered "distributors" and 3 registered dairies. No additional distributors have been registered during the year.

The District is included in the area covered by the Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) No. 3 Order, which came into force on the 1st January, 1954. This Order prohibits the retail sale of undesignated raw milk in the area. In consequence, a large number of producer-retailers of undesignated milk obtain supplies of designated milk for retail sale from the large dairy firms or from the producers of Tuberculin Tested Milk and sell their own products to the dairy firms for pasteurisation.

During the year 125 samples of designated milks were submitted for the Methylene Blue reduction test, 15 failing to pass the test. Of these samples 31 were also examined for sufficiency of heat treatment (phosphatase test) and proved satisfactory.

Biological examinations for the presence of tubercle bacilli were made of 90 samples, 54 of which were raw milks intended for pasteurisation. Five cases proved positive, and orders were made under Section 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949 requiring that no milk from the premises be sold unless arrangements were made for it to be heat treated before consumption.

### Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1939-49

The following licences were granted by the Council during the year:—

1. Dealers' licences to sell tuberculin tested milk ...	21
2. Dealers' licences to sell pasteurised milk ... ..	20
3. Dealers' licences to sell sterilised milk ... ..	1
4. Supplementary licences to sell tuberculin tested milk	3
5. Supplementary licences to sell pasteurised milk ...	4
6. Supplementary licences to sell sterilised milk ...	1

## Ice Cream

At the end of 1955 there were 2 premises registered for the manufacture and sale of ice cream, one of which is for cold mix only. There were no ice cream manufactured at either of these premises during 1955.

There are also 33 premises registered for sale only, two being registered during the year. These vendors receive their ice cream from manufacturers outside the district and all, except one, receive it wrapped or pre-packed.

No samples of ice cream were taken during the year.

## Section 57, Food & Drugs Act, 1938 (Slaughter Houses Act, 1954)

Three slaughter-house licences were renewed during the early part of 1955.

There are 17 butchers' shops in the district.

There are 12 premises registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the preparation or manufacture of sausages, potted, pickled or preserved foods, one being registered during the year.

## Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933 to 1954

There were 34 slaughtermen licensed under the 1933 Act. Of these, 21 were re-licensed under the Slaughter of Animals (Amendment) Act, 1954, which came into operation on the 1st October, 1955. Nineteen were licensed to slaughter or stun cattle, pigs and sheep, and the other two were restricted to slaughtering or stunning pigs and sheep.

## Other Foods

Details of food premises other than those used for manufacture of meat products are as follows:—

Bakehouses	5	Retail Shops	
Public Houses	37	(a) General Provisions	56
Cafes (excluding Public Houses)	5	(b) Greengrocers (Not in "a")	10
Factory Canteens	13	(c) Sweets and Confectionery (not in "a")	24
School Canteens	6	(d) Fish and Chips	18
		(e) Wet Fish (Not in "a" or "b")	1
		(f) Tripe (Not in "d")	1

## Meat Inspection

Most of the meat sold within the area is obtained from outside the District.

Inspection of carcasses at the three private slaughterhouses has been carried out very thoroughly throughout the year, 100% inspections being recorded as follows:—



	Cattle ex'd'g Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known),		—	—	—	—
Carcases Inspected	54	27	2	113	68
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	2	—	1	—
Percentage of number inspect- ed affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	2	7	—	1	—
<b>Tuberculosis only</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	2	—	—	—
Percentage of number inspect- ed affected with Tuberculosis	6	7	—	—	—

In addition to the above 13 pigs for home consumption were examined at the request of the owners. One carcase and offals weighing 70 lbs. was affected by Uraemia, a liver (Cirrhosis) and kidneys (Acute Nephritis) were destroyed.

The following are details of condemnations:—

	Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Tuberculosis 10cwts. 1qr. 20lbs.	22lbs.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Distomatosis 20lbs.	Nil	Nil	2lbs.	Nil	Nil
Angiomatosis Nil	18lbs.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Bruising Nil	20lbs.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Chronic Mastitis Nil	5lbs.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Condemned meat in any appreciable quantity is collected by Messrs. Mitchell and Broadbent, Halifax. Small quantities are taken to Huddersfield Abattoir for disposal along with the Corporation's diseased meat, or is burned at one of the local mills.

### Food Hygiene

Very little supervision of food preparing and general food premises has been possible during the year.

At retail shops the following foods were found to be unfit for sale for human consumption and were condemned, the food being disposed of at the Council's tips.

- 85 lbs. Tinned Ham
- 6 lbs. Tinned Tongue
- 15½ lbs. Tinned Luncheon Meat or Corned Meat and Stewed Steak
- 1½ lbs. Tinned Salmon
- 19 lbs. Tinned Tomatoes
- 23 lbs. Tinned Fruits
- 56 lbs. Fish
- 28 lbs. Semolina

## Food and Drugs Act, 1938

The West Riding County Council is the Authority responsible for the Food Adulteration Section of the Act. The following particulars of samples taken during the year have been supplied by the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures:—

				<b>Genuine</b>	<b>Adulterated</b>
Milk Samples examined	...	...	...	<b>44</b>	<b>1</b>
Drugs examined	...	...	...	—	—
Other Foods examined	...	...	...	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>
Proceedings instituted	...	...	...	—	—
Cautions issued	...	...	...	—	<b>1</b>



## Section VI

### PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

There was an outbreak of dysentery and an increased incidence of Measles and Whooping Cough during 1955.

#### Smallpox

There were no cases of Smallpox notified during the year.

#### Diphtheria

No cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year.

Supplies of Anti-Toxin for the treatment of suspected cases and contacts are obtainable by medical practitioners through the hospital service, stocks being held at the Mill Hill Isolation Hospital, Huddersfield, and the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary. Diphtheria Prophylactic for immunisation can be obtained by medical practitioners on application to the Divisional Medical Officer.

The immunisation campaign continued during the year, the inoculations being carried out by medical practitioners and officers of the County Health Department. Some 115 children of school age and 77 children under 5 years of age received a complete course of injections, whilst 440 children who had been inoculated some years ago received "booster" doses.

Further particulars of immunisations carried out and the immunisation state of the area will be found in Section VII of this report.

#### Scarlet Fever

During the year one case of Scarlet Fever was notified as compared with 10 in the previous year. The patient, a boy aged 5 resident in Shepley was admitted to Mill Hill Isolation Hospital.

#### Acute Primary and Acute Influenzal Pneumonia

There were 3 cases of Acute Primary Pneumonia and one case of Acute Influenzal Pneumonia notified during the year as compared with 5 cases of Acute Primary Pneumonia in the previous year. Of these cases 2 occurred in Kirkburton, one in Kirkheaton and one in Lepton.

The number of deaths registered during the year as due to all forms of Pneumonia was 15.

#### Whooping Cough

A total of 70 cases of Whooping Cough were notified during the year, as compared with 16 in the previous year. The distribution of cases is given in the following table:—

Ward	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Tot'l
Flockton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Kirkburton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	12	30	6	49
Kirkheaton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	3
Lepton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11	5	1	17
Shelley	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shepley	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thurstonl'd & Farnley Tyas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whitley Upper	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	25	35	8	70

## Measles

Cases of this disease notified during the year numbered 275, as compared with 4 in 1954. The distribution of cases is given in the following table:—

Ward	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May	Jun.	July	Aug.	Sept	Oct.	Nov	Dec.	T t'l
Flockton	—	4	7	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	34
Kirkburton	4	1	3	9	24	12	1	—	—	—	—	—	54
Kirkheaton	43	22	13	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	79
Lepton	2	29	20	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	59
Shelley	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Shepley	23	4	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	45
Thurstonl'd & Farnley Tyas	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Whitley Upper	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
<b>Totals</b>	72	62	62	37	29	12	1	—	—	—	—	—	275

## Enteric Fever and Dysentery

During the year 177 cases of Dysentery were confirmed, the majority occurring in the Kirkburton Ward as will be seen from the following table:—

Ward	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	July	Aug.	Sept	Oct.	Nov	Dec.	T't'
Flockton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kirkburton	—	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	19	123	8	158
Kirkheaton	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Lepton	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	2	—	—	1	—	6
Shelley	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	5
Shepley	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thurstonl'd & Farnley Tyas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whitley Upper	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Totals :</b>	—	4	4	2	—	1	8	2	—	19	129	8	177

A full report on the outbreaks will be found in Section VII of this Report.

No cases of Enteric Fever were notified.

## Meningococcal Infections

One case of Meningococcal Infection was notified during the year. The patient, a child aged 2 years resident in Kirkburton, was admitted to Mill Hill Isolation Hospital where she made a satisfactory recovery.

## Acute Poliomyelitis and Acute Polioencephalitis

No cases of Acute Poliomyelitis or Polioencephalitis were notified during the year.

## **Food Poisoning**

An isolated case of food poisoning occurred during the year, the patient being a male aged 21 years. He visited Blackpool for a weekend and commenced to be ill with vomiting and diarrhoea on his return home. A sample of faeces was obtained from the patient and from this heat resistant *Clostridium welchii* was isolated.

The food suspected of causing the illness was tinned tuna fish and this was reported to the Medical Officer of Health for Blackpool who arranged for a tin of fish from the same consignment to be sent to the Laboratory for examination. No pathogenic organisms were isolated from this and the origin of the food poisoning was not determined.

The patient made a complete recovery.

## **Puerperal Pyrexia**

One case of Puerperal Pyrexia was notified during the year.

## **Ophthalmia Neonatorum**

No cases of this disease were notified during the year.

## **Erysipelas**

Three cases of Erysipelas were notified during the year.

## **Cancer**

The Deaths attributable to Cancer during the year numbered 44 (21 male and 23 female) as compared with 50 for the previous year. The Cancer death rate for 1955 is 2.54 per 1,000 of the estimated population, compared with a rate of 2.88 for the previous year. The corresponding rates for the Administrative County and the Urban Districts are 1.90 and 2.03 respectively.

## **Tuberculosis**

A total of 13 new cases of Tuberculosis was added to the Notification Register during the year, as compared with 39 during the previous year. Of these new cases, 5 were inmates of Storthes Hall Hospital.

The deaths recorded as due to Tuberculosis numbered 6 (5 male and 1 female pulmonary) as compared with 7 deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis in the previous year. Of these 6 deaths 4 occurred in Storthes Hall Hospital.

The following tables give details of the number of cases on the Notification Register together with particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and deaths from Tuberculosis during the year:—

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
(a) Number of cases on Register at commencement of year	67	44	12	6
(b) Number of cases notified first time during the year	7	5	—	1
(c) Number of cases restored to Register ....	—	1	—	—
(d) Number of cases added to Register otherwise than by notification ....	—	—	—	—
(e) Number of cases removed from the Register ....	20	4	2	—
(f) Number of cases remaining on the Register ....	54	46	10	7

Age (years)	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	3	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
45—55	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	—
55—65	3	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	7	5	—	1	5	1	—	—

Table showing Cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the Year

Disease	Total Number of cases Notified	Number of cases in which Diagno- sis con- firmed	Number of cases Admitted Mill Hill Isolation Hospital	Deaths	Age distribution of confirmed cases.																						
					Under 1		1-2		2-3		3-4		4-5		5-10		10-15		15-20		21-35		35-45		45-65		Over 65
					M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Measles ...	275	275	1	—	—	2	9	7	10	14	17	12	14	26	77	80	1	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	70	70	—	—	—	2	2	4	1	5	5	6	5	4	17	17	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Primary Pneumonia ...	3	3	—	15(a)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Influen- zal Pneumonia	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Scarlet Fever ..	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	182	177	—	—	—	1	2	4	4	4	6	3	3	6	35	32	14	7	5	3	7	15	8	8	5	2	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections ...	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

(a) deaths from all forms of Pneumonia.

SECTION VII

**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
OF THE  
**WEST RIDING OF YORKSHIRE**

---

**DIVISION 20**

---

URBAN DISTRICTS OF:—

COLNE VALLEY

KIRKBURTON

DENBY DALE

MELTHAM

HOLMFIRTH

SADDLEWORTH

---

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
OF THE  
**Divisional Medical Officer**  
**1955**

BY

**ERIC WARD**

M.R.S.C., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.



### **Divisional Staff:**

#### **Divisional Medical Officer:**

E. WARD, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

#### **Senior Assistant County Medical Officers and School Medical Officers:**

K. M. C. HAIGH, M.B., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G., C.P.H.

(Appointed 17-1-55)

W. P. B. STONEHOUSE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

#### **Assistant County Medical Officers and School Medical Officers:**

B. R. ELLIS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

(Appointed 1-12-55)

E. D. SHAW, M.B., Ch.B.

#### **Clinic Medical Officers: (Part time)**

C. DICKSON, M.B., Ch.B.

(until Dec., 1955)

A. EDWARDS, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.,  
L.R.F.P.S. (until Dec., 1955)

A. HAND, M.B., Ch.B.

L. E. LUCAS, M.B., Ch.B.

(until Dec., 1955)

H. MERCER, M.B. Ch.B.

H. C. PICKERING, M.R.C.S.,  
L.R.C.P.

J. A. STEPHENS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

(Resigned March, 1955)

J. E. TAYLOR, M.B., Ch.B. (Dec'd.)  
(Resigned March, 1955)

J. G. WALLER, M.B., Ch.B.

M. V. WILBY, M.B., Ch.B.

(until Dec., 1955)

P. B. WOOD, M.B., Ch.B.

#### **Superintendent Health Visitor: Mrs. A. CORLESS**

#### **Health Visitors and School Nurses:**

Miss B. BAINES

Miss D. BROOKE

Miss A. COLEMAN

Miss M. DAWKINS

(Appointed 18-7-55)

\*Mrs. E. FISCHER

Miss M. FLINTOFF

Miss B. HIGTON

Mrs. E. M. HURLEY

Miss C. INCHBOARD

Miss D. MELLOR

Miss M. I. MORRIS

Miss M. NUTTALL

(Resigned 13-10-55)

Miss B. OWNSWORTH

Mrs. A. ROYSTON

\*Mrs. M. WARD

Mrs. E. WILLIAMS

Miss D. WOOD

#### **Midwives:**

Mrs. J. CAPES

Miss A. CHARLESWORTH

Mrs. J. COOK

Mrs. E. GRAHAM

Mrs. E. L. B. LYTHER

#### **Nurse/Midwives:**

Miss A. ASPINALL

Miss A. BEAUMONT

Miss M. BEWSHER

(Resigned 1-9-55)

Miss M. BROOK

†Miss B. M. COOPER

(Appointed 19-9-55)

Miss F. B. EMMOTT

(Appointed 1-2-55)

Miss N. CRABTREE

(Resigned 24-5-55)

Miss M. J. CUFFE

(Resigned 31-10-55)

Miss S. JONES

Miss L. KAYE

Miss M. J. LAKING

(Appointed 24-5-55)

Miss M. MIDGLEY

(Resigned 24-5-55)

Miss K. M. PURDON

Miss M. P. SPRING

(Appointed 24-5-55)

#### **Home Nurses:**

Miss M. BOOTHROYD

(Transferred to Div. 19, 1-9-55)

Mrs. M. CLEMENTS

(Appointed 1-9-55)

Mrs. N. EARL

†Mrs. M. HART

(Appointed 10-10-55)

Mrs. J. HALSTEAD

(Appointed 30-5-55)

Mrs. K. M. KAYE

Miss C. LATIMER

Mrs. J. LAUDER

Miss A. LODGE

Mrs. N. PLATT

Miss E. M. PRENTIS

(Resigned 28-6-55)

Mrs. H. G. RADCLIFFE

(Transferred to Div. 22, 30-11-55)

Mrs. H. G. STURGEON

Miss S. WADSWORTH

(Appointed 1-11-55)

#### **Mental Health Social Worker:**

Mrs. M. MOORE

#### **Speech Therapist:**

Mrs. M. J. CARTER

#### **Mental Health Home Teachers:**

Miss E. BALL

Mrs. V. M. E. DUNCOMBE

(Appointed 1-12-55)

#### **Duly Authorised Officer: Mr. R. G. RACE**

Senior Clerk: Mr. G. A. BEATSON

\*Part time

†Temporary



## WEST RIDING COUNTY COUNCIL — SERVICES

### INTRODUCTION

In this Section an account is given of the services provided by the West Riding County Council in the Division.

The Division, which consists of the Urban Districts of Colne Valley, Denby Dale, Holmfirth, Kirkburton, Meltham and Saddleworth, has a population of 88,980 and an area of 82,750 acres. Although the population is only slightly more than one person per acre on average, owing to the wild moorland nature of much of the Division the majority of the inhabitants live in small urban communities in the various valleys.

### STAFF

The Medical Staff consists of a Divisional Medical Officer who is also Medical Officer of Health for the six County Districts in the Division and two Senior Assistant County Medical Officers (one of whom is also Deputy Medical Officer of Health for all the County Districts apart from Saddleworth, whilst the other is Deputy Medical Officer of Health for Saddleworth only). In addition there are two full-time Assistant County Medical Officers and 5 part-time Medical Officers who undertake sessional duties at Infant Welfare and Ante-Natal Clinics.

Medical auxiliary staff employed wholly in the Division are one Mental Health Social Worker and two Mental Health Home Teachers whilst the Speech Therapist is shared with Division 19.

Details of the Health-Visiting, Home Nursing and Midwifery Staffs will be found later in this report.

The statistics given in this Section relate to the whole Division but where practicable they are sub-divided into those for the various districts.

# COMPARATIVE STATISTICS FOR 1955

	Colne Valley U.D.	Denby Dale U.D.	Holm- firth U.D.	Kirk- burton U.D.	Mel- tham U.D.	Saddle worth U.D.	Division No. 20	Aggregate West Riding U.D's.	West Riding Admin. County
Area (Acres) . . .	16,052	10,165	17,565	14,577	5,906	18,485	82,750	380,334	1,609,759
Population . . . . .	21,570	9,590	18,700	17,340	5,170	16,610	88,980	1,167,000	1,610,300
Live Births . . . . .	269	110	226	204	67	207	1083	17,236	24,601
Still Births . . . . .	10	2	10	6	—	2	30	463	666
Deaths . . . . .	298	108	382	436	60	219	1503	14,635	18,887
Deaths under 1 year of age . . . . .	9	5	5	4	3	5	31	434	645
<b>Birth Rate</b> Per 1,000 estimated population (Crude)	12.47	11.47	12.09	11.76	12.96	12.46	12.17	14.8	15.3
„ (Adjusted)	13.34	12.73	13.17	13.41	13.61	13.83	*	14.9	15.4
<b>Death Rates</b> All per 1,000 est- imated population All Causes (Crude)	13.82	11.26	20.43	25.14	11.61	13.18	16.89	12.5	11.7
„ „ (Adjusted)	12.99	10.36	17.77	21.62	10.68	11.73	*	12.7	12.3
Infective and Para- sitic diseases ex- cluding T.B. but including Syphilis and other V.D. . .	0.05	0.10	—	0.29	—	0.06	0.09	0.06	0.07
Tuberculosis of Respiratory system	0.14	0.10	0.11	0.35	—	0.06	0.15	0.11	0.11
Other forms of Tuberculosis . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0.02	0.01
Respiratory Diseases (excluding tuber- culosis of respir- atory system) . . . .	1.02	1.04	1.71	2.25	1.16	0.78	1.37	1.28	1.21
Cancer . . . . .	2.18	1.98	2.57	2.54	2.13	2.59	2.38	2.03	1.90
Heart and Circul- atory Diseases . . . .	5.05	3.86	8.34	11.19	4.64	5.78	6.92	4.71	4.39
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous Sys- tem . . . . .	2.04	1.77	4.87	3.69	1.74	1.99	2.90	2.09	1.90
<b>Infant Mortality</b> . . . .	33.46	45.45	22.12	19.61	44.78	24.15	28.62	25.2	26.2
<b>Maternal Mortality</b>	3.58	—	—	—	—	—	0.90	0.45	0.67

\* Figures not available.

## VITAL STATISTICS

### Births

The number of live births registered in the Divisional area during 1955 was 1083 (569 males, 514 females), an increase of 31 compared with the previous year.

The CRUDE BIRTH RATE was 12.17 per 1,000 of the estimated population as compared with 11.80 for 1954.

The illegitimate live births numbered 29 or 2.68% of the total live births, a decrease of 8 compared with the previous year.

### Deaths

The deaths assigned to the Divisional area after correction for transfers were 1503 (716 male, 787 female), a decrease of 11 on the total for 1954.

The CRUDE DEATH RATE from all causes was 16.89 per 1,000 of the estimated population as compared with 16.98 for the previous year.

The following were the principal causes of death in order of frequency:—

(i)	Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System ...	616
(ii)	Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions ... ..	258
(iii)	Malignant Neoplasms ... ..	212
(iv)	Respiratory Diseases (excluding Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ... ..	122

These 4 causes accounted for 80.37% of the total deaths.

### Infant Mortality

In 1955 the deaths of infants under one year of age numbered 31, a decrease of 5 on the previous year. Of these deaths 24 infants were under 4 weeks of age at the time of death.

The INFANT MORTALITY RATE was 28.62 per 1,000 live births as compared with 34.22 for 1954.

The death rate amongst legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births was 27.51 as compared with 33.50 for 1954.

The death rate amongst illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births was 68.97 as compared with 54.05 for 1954.

The following table gives the causes of death of all infants at various ages under one year:—

# DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

Causes of Death	Total under 1 year						
	Under 1 day	1-2 days	2-5 days	5-7 days	Total under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-4 weeks
1. Erythroblastosis Foetalis	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
2. Bronchitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Pneumonia ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
4. Congenital Malformations ... ..	—	—	2	—	2	1	1
5. Premature Birth ...	9	5	3	—	17	—	—
6. Atelectasis ... ..	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
7. Intra-Cranial Haemorrhage ... ..	1	1	—	—	2	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	12	6	5	—	23	1	—
					24	2	3
							1
							31

## EPIDEMIOLOGY

### Smallpox

No cases of Smallpox were reported during the year.

The number of records of vaccinations and re-vaccinations received during the year was 463 and 59 as compared with 304 and 56 respectively in the previous year.

Details of the various age groups vaccinated and re-vaccinated are given below.

District	VACCINATIONS					Total Vaccinations
	Under 1	1	2—4	5—14	15 +	
Colne Valley ...	139	12	6	—	4	161
Denby Dale ...	34	3	2	1	4	44
Holmfirth ...	74	7	3	5	3	92
Kirkburton ...	49	5	5	1	1	61
Meltham ...	28	—	—	1	5	34
Saddleworth ...	63	1	—	2	5	71
Grand Totals ...	387	28	16	10	22	463

District	RE-VACCINATIONS					Total Re-Vaccinations
	Under 1	1	2—4	5—14	15 +	
Colne Valley ...	—	—	1	—	13	14
Denby Dale ...	—	—	—	—	6	6
Holmfirth ...	—	—	1	—	15	16
Kirkburton ...	—	—	—	—	7	7
Meltham ...	—	—	—	1	2	3
Saddleworth ...	—	—	—	2	11	13
Grand Totals ...	—	—	2	3	54	59

No cases of Generalised Vaccinia or Post-Vaccinal Encephalomyelitis were reported, and no deaths from any complications of vaccination occurred during the year.

### Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever

One case of Paratyphoid B occurred during the year, the patient being a boy aged 6 years resident in the Holmfirth Urban District.

The boy complained of malaise on the 30th April and began to run a slight temperature. This continued and on the 9th May he was admitted to the Halifax General Hospital for investigation. Soon after admission he developed a slight rash and about a week later salmonella paratyphoid B was isolated. The Widal Test reaction was also positive for paratyphoid B.

He was transferred to the Isolation Hospital, Leeds Road, Bradford on the 18th May where he made a rapid recovery. However, he remained an intestinal carrier and this condition required three different courses of antibiotics before three consecutively negative bacteriological specimens were obtained.

He was discharged home on the 10th July, 1955.



## Diphtheria

One case of diphtheria was notified during the year but the diagnosis was not confirmed.

According to records available, only 49.93% of the children under 5 are at present protected. Whilst this figure is probably lower owing to lack of records, than it should be in reality, it is a very disappointing figure and energetic steps should be taken to secure a much higher acceptance rate for young children.

If the fall in the incidence and mortality of diphtheria is to continue it is vital to secure that not less than 75% of babies are immunised before their first birthday, otherwise a return of diphtheria outbreaks is a definite possibility. The virtual disappearance of diphtheria is conditional upon the maintenance of an adequate level of immunisation.

Arrangements for immunisation have continued as in previous years, the inoculations being given at Infant Welfare Centres or by private medical practitioners, and in addition special immunisation sessions have been held in various schools. The response has been reasonably satisfactory and no special mobile campaigns have been held.

### Number of Children Immunised in 1955

Urban District	Full Courses			
	Age at date of Final injection			
	Under 1	1—4	5—14	Total
Colne Valley ...	100	105	34	239
Denby Dale ...	27	51	33	111
Holmfirth ...	43	76	54	173
Kirkburton ...	25	52	115	192
Meltham ...	14	18	—	32
Saddleworth ...	42	44	1	87
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>251</b>	<b>346</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>834</b>

  

Secondary Booster Injection				
Age at date of injection				
	Under 1	1—4	5—14	Total
Colne Valley ...	—	36	355	391
Denby Dale ...	—	3	93	96
Holmfirth ...	—	30	413	443
Kirkburton ...	—	15	425	440
Meltham ...	—	21	18	39
Saddleworth ...	—	5	25	30
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>1329</b>	<b>1439</b>

Records of the immunisation state of children in the Divisional area as at the 31st December, 1955, are shown below.

Age at 31-12-55 i.e., Born in Year	Under 1 1955	1 to 4 1951-54	5 to 9 1946-50	10 to 14 1941-45	Total Under 15
Number immunised ....	34	2812	6,976	5,477	15,299
Estimated mid- year child popula- tion 1955.	Children under 5		Children 5-14		19,200
	5,700		13,500		
Percentage of child population immunised ....	49.93		92.24		79.68



## Whooping Cough

The restricted scheme for the immunisation of children against Whooping Cough has continued throughout the year. Supplies of vaccine can be obtained by medical practitioners on application to the Divisional Medical Officer and children up to the age of 4 years may be immunised.

The inoculations have been carried out by private medical practitioners and at Infant Welfare Centres and during the year 268 children received protective treatment as follows:—

District	By General Practitioners	At Infant Welfare Clinics	Total
Colne Valley	32	97	129
Denby Dale	1	34	35
Holmfirth	8	32	40
Kirkburton	—	13	13
Meltham	11	8	19
Saddleworth	4	28	32
Total	56	212	268

## Dysentery

During the year, 237 cases of Sonne Dysentery were notified in the Division, as compared with 45 in 1954. Of these cases, 177 were notified in the Kirkburton Urban District, 46 in Saddleworth, 7 in Denby Dale, 4 in Colne Valley and 3 in Meltham. No cases were notified in Holmfirth.

The Kirkburton cases occurred in three groups. In the Spring 10 cases came to notice in the Lepton/Almondbury area. These were closely associated with one another and infection was probably imported by school children from a school just over the district boundary, where at this time the disease was prevalent. The family principally affected was engaged in milk production so arrangements were made for the milk produced to be heat treated.

The second group of 8 cases occurred in July in Kirkheaton, again the cases were closely related.

The largest group occurred in Kirkburton village and first came to notice early in November when the Head Teacher of the Kirkburton Church of England School reported that during the previous fortnight some 20 or 30 children had been absent from school, each for a few days, suffering from sickness and diarrhoea. Particulars of the absentees were obtained from the Head Teacher. Visits were paid by the Sanitary Inspector to the three most recent cases and specimens obtained for examination. These were reported by the Public Health Laboratory, Wakefield as being positive for *Shigella Sonnei*. On receiving this information the Sanitary Inspector visited the school and obtained a list of from 50 to 60 children who had been absent the previous fortnight suffering from diarrhoea or who were contacts of such children. Some 56 specimens were obtained and 50 of these were later reported as positive for *Shigella Sonnei*.

In the meantime General Practitioners in the area were contacted and informed of the results of the faeces examination. Information was obtained to the effect that cases of diarrhoea had been occurring in the district for some weeks past but no specimens had been sent in for examination. The cases had cleared up clinically quite quickly following treatment with one of the sulpha drugs.

From the information available it was apparent that a widespread outbreak of Sonne Dysentery was in progress in the school. Enquiries were made from the canteen staff at the school as to any intestinal disturbances but none was admitted. An examination of faeces however, showed that two of the women working in the canteen were excreting *Shigella Sonnei*. One later admitted having had a touch of diarrhoea a week previously but did not stay off work. The other woman found to be excreting did not give any history of diarrhoea.

All children attending the school who gave a history of diarrhoea, and their contacts were forthwith excluded from school until a specimen had been examined. In the case of infants 3 negatives were required from both cases and contacts before return to school was allowed, but in the case of children over 8 years return was allowed when one negative had been obtained, 2 further specimens being examined after return to school.

Contacts who were food handlers were excluded from food handling duties until one negative was obtained, 2 further specimens being obtained after return to work.

During November new cases were found in decreasing numbers as shown in the following table:—

Week ending 12-11-55	— 92	Week Ending 10-12-55	— 2
„ „ 19-11-55	— 42	„ „ 17-12-55	— 1
„ „ 26-11-55	— 13	„ „ 24-12-55	— 1
„ „ 3-12-55	— 10	„ „ 31-12-55	— —

The majority of cases were children attending the Church of England School which is a Junior School but some of the contacts who became infected were pupils at the Secondary Modern School.

In all, some 155 cases were notified and accepted as confirmed cases. The age distribution of the cases is shown below:—

0-2	2-5	5-8	8-12	12-15	15-25	25-45	Over 45
7	20	39	31	8	9	31	10

From 123 of these *Shigella Sonnei* was isolated.

As soon as the size of the outbreak became apparent, Dr. Little of the Wakefield Laboratory kindly investigated specimens from 10 patients for susceptibility and reported as follows:—

“Specimens were **sensitive** to Chloramphenicol, Streptomycin and Terramycin, **slightly** sensitive to Aureomycin and resistant to Penicillin, Erythromycin and Sulpha.”

This information was passed on to General Practitioners concerned and treatment with Streptomycin in the form of Guanimycin was carried out in the majority of cases.

The fact that the organism was resistant to sulpha drugs probably accounted for the high percentage of children who were found to be excreting after having apparently recovered from the disease following treatment with one of the sulpha drugs.

The majority of cases ceased excreting after one course of treatment with Guanimycin but some persisted for several weeks as is shown in the following table:—

**Period from 1st positive specimen to the 1st negative specimen in the final series**

Under 2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	4-6 weeks	6-8 weeks	8-10 weeks	10-12 weeks	12-14 weeks
37	33	23	20	2	3	4	1

Throughout the outbreak, there was excellent liaison between the General Practitioners, the Head Teacher of the school concerned and the Sanitary Inspectors and I feel that it was largely due to their good will and ready co-operation that the outbreak was cleared up so quickly.

The 7 cases in the Denby Dale area were all members of one family, one child of which attended the Kirkburton Secondary Modern School, thus providing the direct link with the Kirkburton outbreak.

The 46 cases in Saddleworth Urban District occurred mainly in the late Spring and early Summer. In most instances there was some connection, usually through school children, with Oldham, where at the time, an extensive outbreak of dysentery was in progress. No particular school or locality was principally involved.

The 4 cases in Colne Valley were 2 isolated cases and 2 members of the same family, whilst the 3 cases in Meltham were all members of the same family.

### **Food Poisoning**

During the year 33 cases of food poisoning were notified, 23 of which were confirmed. Of these cases 22 occurred in the Holmfirth Urban District and one in the Kirkburton Urban District.

#### **Holmfirth Urban District**

The first outbreak occurred at Deanhouse Hospital on the 2nd April, 1955 and 14 cases were involved. Potted meat was suspected of causing the outbreak but no pathological organisms were grown from samples submitted to the laboratory.

The interval from ingestion to onset was 9 to 15 hours and the main symptoms were vomiting and diarrhoea of moderate severity, the duration being from 8 to 24 hours.

*Staphylococcus aureus* (Coagulase positive) was grown from one sample of faeces and two samples of vomit and heat resistant *Clostridium Welchii* was also grown from one sample of faeces.

The cases occurred in 4 wards of the hospital but there was no evidence of skin infection or gastro enteric symptoms among the kitchen staff. All patients affected had eaten potted meat and no patient was affected who had not done so. The potted meat had been kept in a refrigerator for 3 days before consumption.

The second outbreak in the district occurred from the 18th to 21st July, 1955 when 8 cases were involved. Pork pies manufactured in Sheffield and brought into the district for sale were suspected of causing the outbreak but no pathological organisms were isolated from samples of pie and sausage meat obtained from the firm concerned.

The interval from ingestion to onset was 48 to 72 hours and the main symptoms were vomiting and diarrhoea of moderate severity.

*Salmonella typhimurium* was isolated from specimens of faeces sent to the laboratory.

The Medical Officer of Health for Sheffield reported that specimens were taken from the van driver distributing the pies with negative results and that no cases of food poisoning had been brought to his notice.

#### **Kirkburton Urban District**

This was an isolated case of food poisoning, the patient being a male aged 21 years. He visited Blackpool for a week-end and commenced to be ill with vomiting and diarrhoea on his return home. A sample of faeces was obtained from the patient and from this heat resistant *Clostridium Welchii* was isolated.

The food suspected of causing the illness was tinned tuna fish and this was reported to the Medical Officer of Health for Blackpool who arranged for a tin of fish from the same consignment to be sent to the Laboratory for examination. No pathogenic organisms were isolated from this and the origin of the food poisoning was not determined. The patient made a complete recovery.

## Saddleworth Urban District

There were 10 cases of food poisoning notified but in none of the cases was the diagnosis confirmed.

### Winter Vomiting

A small outbreak of Winter vomiting occurred at Lepton County Infants School in December. Two children were violently sick in school and five more vomited copiously after arriving home.

A further eight cases of vomiting at home were reported amongst children attending the school, but no reason for the vomiting could be suggested and the children appeared quite fit 24 hours later.

Samples of faeces from the first two cases were sent to the Laboratory for examination but no pathological organisms were found.

### Mass Radiography Service

Details of the Surveys carried out in the Divisional area during the year are as follows:—

Survey undertaken at (1)	Number Ex'min'd (2)	Abnormalities Discovered			
		Tuberculosis		Other (5)	Total (6)
		Active (3)	Inactive (4)		
The Mechanics Institute, Uppermill, Saddleworth U.D.	1390	4	7	7	18
The Civic Hall, Slaithwaite, Colne Valley U.D.	1427	1	9	5	15
Messrs. D. Brown (Tractors) Ltd. Meltham U.D.	1629	3	7	13	23
The Carlile Institute, Meltham U.D.	548	1	3	6	10
The Miner's Welfare Baths, Scissett, Denby Dale U.D.	2118	1	10	22	33
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>7112</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>99</b>

The non-tuberculosis abnormalities are classified as follows:—

1. (Anatomical abnormalities — Congenital)	...	5
2. (Anatomical abnormalities — Acquired)	...	2
4. (Congenital Pulmonary Malformation)	...	3
5. (Bacterial or Virus Pulmonary Infections)	...	2
7. (Bronchiectasis)	...	5
9. (Emphysema)	...	1
10. (Pulmonary fibrosis: non-tuberculosis)	...	11
11. (Pneumoconiosis)	...	7
12. (Spontaneous pneumothorax)	...	1
13. (Benign Neoplasms of Lungs and Mediastinum)	...	5
18. (Pleural thickening)	...	4
19. (Abnormalities of Diaphragm and Oesophagus)	...	1
20. (Cardiovascular lesions: congenital)	...	3
23. (Pneumoconiosis and Tuberculosis)	...	3



The information given is in respect of people actually examined during the surveys and may, therefore, include persons normally resident in other areas.

## MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES

### Domiciliary Midwifery

The number of cases attended by the domiciliary midwives during the year was 330. This shows a slight increase of 6 over last year's figure but this is accounted for by the fact that the Maternity Block at Holme Valley Memorial Hospital was closed down for a few weeks during the year owing to shortage of staff, and 11 cases originally booked for admission there were transferred to the domiciliary midwives. There was a reduction of 29 in the number of cases admitted for confinement to Holme Valley Memorial Hospital during the year.

At the commencement of the year, 5 whole-time midwives, 7 nurse/midwives and 3 relief nurse/midwives were engaged in the Division. During the year 2 nurse/midwives and 2 relief nurse/midwives resigned their appointments whilst 3 nurse/midwives and one relief nurse/midwife were appointed.

The position regarding midwifery services at the end of the year was as follows:—

Urban District	Authorised Establishment	Staff at 31st December, 1955	
		Whole-time Midwives	Nurse/Midwives
Colne Valley	3	1	1
Denby Dale	2	—	2
Holmfirth	2	2	—
Kirkburton	2	1	2
Meltham	1	—	1
Saddleworth	2	1	2
Relief	2	—	2
Division 20	14	5	10

Three independent midwives signified their intention to practice in the area.

Of the 1109 births notified and attributed to the Division, 334 occurred at home. The following table shows the number of cases attended :—



MIDWIFE	CONFINEMENTS		HOME VISITS	
	As Midwife	As Mat. Nurse	Ante- Natal	Post- Natal
<b>Whole-time County Midwives.</b>				
Lythe ... ..	24	—	255	644
Capes ... ..	24	—	249	522
Charlesworth ... ..	48	2	666	945
Cook ... ..	26	1	380	658
Graham ... ..	35	2	353	786
	157	5	1903	3555
<b>Nurse/Midwives.</b>				
Aspinall ... ..	11	—	107	251
Beaumont ... ..	15	—	187	381
Bewsher ... ..	8	1	91	279
(Resigned 1-9-55)				
Brook ... ..	15	—	97	320
*Cooper ... ..	1	—	31	59
(Appointed 19-9-55)				
Crabtree ... ..	7	1	69	105
(Resigned 24-5-55)				
Cuffe ... ..	9	—	172	278
(Resigned 31-10-55)				
Emmott ... ..	18	2	145	387
(Appointed 1-2-55)				
Jones ... ..	25	1	242	559
Kaye ... ..	1	—	10	63
Laking ... ..	8	—	112	231
(Appointed 24-5-55)				
Midgley ... ..	3	—	3	32
(Resigned 24-5-55)				
Purdon ... ..	17	3	186	433
Spring ... ..	5	1	17	86
(Appointed 24-5-55)				
	143	9	1469	3464
<b>Independent Midwives.</b>	13	3	—	—
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>3372</b>	<b>7019</b>

\* temporary appointment

Of the cases attended 3 were twin births, 6 were patients who normally resided outside the Division (outward transfers) and one case was attended on behalf of a neighbouring Division. Thus 326 of the births attended were attributed to the Division. Of the remaining 8 births attributed to the Division, 7 were attended by medical practitioners and transferred immediately to hospital, and one was an inward transfer.

In addition 5 miscarriages were also attended by domiciliary midwives.

The services of the domiciliary midwives are offered to all patients who are confined in hospitals or maternity homes but are discharged home before the 14th day of puerperium. During the year 258 such patients received nursing care, 981 individual visits being paid to them. Further details are given in the table on page 17a.

#### Notifications:

The following notifications were received from midwives practising in the Division:—

Death of Child ... ..	4
Stillbirths ... ..	10
Artificial Feeding ... ..	37
Laying out the Dead ... ..	1
Liability to be a source of infection ... ..	13

## Medical Assistance:

Medical aid forms sent in by midwives during 1955 numbered 174 (115 domiciliary, 59 institutional). The following table summarises the cases for which medical aid was sought:—

PREGNANCY			LYING-IN		
	Dom.	Inst.		Dom.	Inst.
Ante-Partum Hæmorrhage...	2	—	Breast Conditions ...	6	—
Albuminuria ...	3	—	General condition ...	1	—
High Blood Pressure ...	1	—	Phlebitis ...	1	—
Hydramnios ...	1	—	Post-Partum Hæmorrhage	3	1
Malpresentation ...	1	—	Pyrexia ...	7	—
Threatened Abortion ...	1	—		18	1
	9	—			
LABOUR			THE CHILD		
Albuminuria ...	1	—	Asphyxia ...	1	—
Episiotomy ...	1	—	B.B.A. ...	1	—
Hæmorrhage ...	2	—	Chest Conditions ...	2	—
Labial Laceration ...	—	4	Eye Conditions ...	5	—
Malpresentation ...	2	1	Prematurity ...	2	—
Multiple Delivery ...	2	—	Thrush ...	1	—
Obstructed Labour ...	2	—		12	—
Premature Labour ...	1	1			
Prolonged Labour ...	8	16			
Retained Placenta ...	2	—			
Ruptured Perineum ...	50	35			
Stillbirth ...	3	1			
Uterine Inertia ...	1	—			
Vaginal Laceration ...	1	—			
	76	58			

## Gas and Air Analgesia:

At the end of 1955, all the 15 midwives in domiciliary practice held the certificate in Gas and Air Analgesia administration and were equipped with the necessary apparatus.

Analgesics were administered by domiciliary midwives to 201 cases, or 60.91% of the cases attended, as compared with 219 cases in 1954.

Pethidine was administered by domiciliary midwives to 183 cases, or 55.45% of the cases attended, as compared with 198 cases in 1954.

Trilene was administered in one case by a domiciliary midwife under the supervision of the general practitioner.

## Ante-Natal Clinics

In the Division there are 3 separate Ante-Natal Clinics and 6 Clinics which are combined with the Infant Welfare Clinics. In addition occasional patients are seen at the Infant Welfare Clinics.

During the year 107 patients made 286 attendances at the various clinics, details of which are given in the following table:—

Clinic	No. of sessions	No. of patients	No. of attendances	Average attendance per session
Meltham ...	12	29	82	6.83
Springhead ...	12	6	23	1.92
Uppermill ...	13	32	74	5.69
*Denby Dale ...	12	4	9	0.75
*Golcar ...	12	—	—	—
*Holmfirth ...	12	—	—	—
*Lepton ...	12	22	69	5.75
†New Mill ...	1	2	2	2.00
*Skelmanthorpe ...	12	12	27	2.25
*Slaithwaite ...	12	—	—	—
Total ...	110	107	286	2.60

\*Combined with Infant Welfare Clinics.

†Patients seen at Infant Welfare Clinics.

It will be seen that the attendance figures compare unfavourably with the previous year when 127 patients made 362 attendances.

There is no doubt that in this Division, the day of the Local Authority Medical Ante-Natal Clinic is over. Personally I do not think that this should be a matter of regret. The clinics were established at a time when very little ante-natal care was given by general practitioners or midwives and they were, therefore, a part of a pioneer service.

Now 90% of expectant mothers engage the doctor for their confinements and receive from him adequate ante-natal care. It is not reasonable to expect general practitioners to refer their booked cases to ante-natal clinics unless their patients receive something the practitioners cannot provide, e.g. instruction regarding relaxation technique.

No special Post-Natal Clinics were held but patients are seen for post-natal examination at the Ante-Natal Clinics. The attendances, however, leave much to be desired. More could be done by way of special visits by health visitors but staffing difficulties prevent this.

### Relaxation Classes

Relaxation classes for expectant mothers have continued to be held at Denby Dale, Holmfirth, Lepton, Meltham, New Mill, Slaithwaite and Springhead. Where possible these classes are attended by a Health Visitor who gives instruction in mothercraft. This work is valuable as it gives opportunities for the Midwife and Health Visitor to work together as a team, thus affording continuity of advice and service for the mother.

These classes are becoming more appreciated and a number of cases have been referred by Medical staffs at the local hospitals and maternity home, thus relieving the pressure on the hospital physiotherapy department.

During the year 128 patients made 856 attendances as follows:—

Clinic	No. of Sessions	No. of Patients	No. of attendances	Average attendance per session
Denby Dale ... ..	45	24	183	4.07
Holmfirth ... ..	40	14	93	2.33
Lepton ... ..	44	15	144	3.27
Meltham ... ..	38	17	107	2.82
New Mill ... ..	29	9	45	1.55
Slaithwaite ... ..	44	42	227	5.16
Springhead ... ..	22	7	57	2.59
Total ... ..	262	128	856	3.27

In view of staff shortages and sickness, the Springhead classes were temporarily suspended during the last quarter of the year. It is hoped that these classes will re-commence early in 1956.

### “Flying Squad” Arrangements

There have been no changes in the arrangements for “Flying Squads” based on the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary and the Oldham and District General Hospital. No calls were made on the squads to attend patients in the Division during the year.

## Institutional Midwifery

Apart from the fact that owing to staffing difficulties the Holme Valley Memorial Hospital was closed to maternity patients for a few weeks during the summer no difficulty has been experienced regarding maternity accommodation, the majority of expectant mothers being able to secure admission to the institution of their own choice.

Of the 1,109 births attributed to the Division, only 334, or 30.12% took place at home, as compared with 330 or 30.19% for the previous year.

A summary of the cases for which medical aid was sought by midwives in institutions is given on page 15a.

Owing to shortage of staff, however, patients are from time to time discharged before the 14th day, as will be seen from the following table.

The Divisional Medical Officer is informed by the hospital authorities when these early discharges are to take place, and arrangements are made for the appropriate domiciliary midwife to attend the patient at home until the 14th day of the puerperium.

		Day of Discharge											
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	Total
<b>Colne Valley U.D.</b>													
No. of Patients ...		1	—	1	—	1	2	12	38	13	3	2	73
No. of Visits ...		3	—	5	—	6	10	58	144	36	8	4	274
<b>Denby Dale U.D.</b>													
No. of Patients ...		—	—	—	—	—	1	7	12	12	2	3	37
No. of Visits ...		—	—	—	—	—	4	30	45	43	7	4	133
<b>Holmfirth U.D.</b>													
No. of Patients ...		—	—	—	—	—	2	2	14	2	—	2	22
No. of Visits ...		—	—	—	—	—	10	9	59	7	—	7	92
<b>Kirkburton U.D.</b>													
No. of Patients ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	13	26	10	4	4	57
No. of Visits ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	63	95	30	8	8	204
<b>Meltham U.D.</b>													
No. of Patients ...		—	—	—	1	—	1	1	6	5	—	—	14
No. of Visits ...		—	—	—	6	—	6	4	25	14	—	—	55
<b>Saddleworth U.D.</b>													
No. of Patients ...		—	—	—	—	—	2	2	25	22	2	2	55
No. of Visits ...		—	—	—	—	—	11	9	101	86	10	6	223
<b>Total No. of Patients</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>258</b>
<b>Total No. of Visits...</b>		<b>3</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>981</b>

Details of the places of confinement of patients from the various districts are shown in the following table.

# ADMISSIONS TO MATERNITY HOSPITALS

Place of Confinement	Colne Valley	Denby Dale	Holmfirth	Kirkburton	Meltham	Saddleworth	Total
Princess Royal Maternity Home	97	50	26	94	25	—	292
Woodfield Maternity Home	—	—	—	—	—	48	48
Holme Valley Memorial Hospital	—	—	128	—	—	—	128
St. Luke's Hospital, Huddersfield	96	2	5	28	17	—	148
Huddersfield Royal Infirmary	23	3	5	7	7	—	45
Oldham and District General Hospital	—	—	—	—	—	57	57
Lakes Hospital, Ashton-U-Lyne	—	—	—	—	—	16	16
Other Maternity Hospitals	1	4	—	4	1	1	11
Other General Hospitals	—	2	1	3	—	6	12
Private Nursing Homes	5	5	2	4	2	—	18
Total Institutional	222	66	167	140	52	128	775
Domiciliary	59	46	78	62	16	73	334
Total Confinements	281	112	245	202	68	201	1109



## DISTRIBUTION OF WELFARE FOODS

The arrangements for the distribution of Welfare Foods have continued as detailed in my report for the last year, and no serious difficulties have been encountered. The only changes which have taken place during the year in the distribution arrangements are as follows:—

**Golcar**—as from the 1st January, 1956 the foods are sold on a Monday afternoon from 2-0 — 4-0 p.m. instead of on a Wednesday afternoon as heretofore.

**Lepton**—as from 1st September, 1955 the foods are sold on a Thursday afternoon from 2-0 — 4-0 p.m. instead of on a Tuesday afternoon as heretofore.

**Shepley**—as from the 1st January, 1956 the selling sessions were reduced from the 2nd and 4th Wednesday afternoons in the month to the 2nd Wednesday afternoon in the month only. The sales were so small that it was considered that 2 sessions per month were not justified.

At the 21 distribution centres in the Division, the following welfare foods were distributed during the year.

National Dried Milk	15,568 tins
Orange Juice	48,467 bottles
Cod Liver Oil	10,490 bottles
Vitamins A and D Tablets	3,173 packets

Full details are shown in the following table.

Distribution Centre	Hours of opening		No. of Sessions	Total Sales					Average Sales per Session						
	Day	Time p.m.		N.D.M.	C.L.O	Vit. Tabs.	O.J.	N.D.M.	C.L.O	Vit. Tabs.	O.J.				
				Tins	Bts.	Pkts.	Bts.	Tins	Bts.	Pkts.	Bts.				
Colne Valley															
GOLCAR Woodville, Scar Lane	Mon.	2—4	52	1127	857	173	3496		21.67	16.47	3.32	67.23			
LINTHWAITE Methodist Church, Stones Lane	Tue.	2—4	48	666	379	126	2218		13.87	7.89	2.62	46.20			
MARSDEN Conservative Club	Thur.	2—4	51	1245	656	151	3157		24.41	12.86	2.96	61.94			
SLAITHWAITE Civic Hall	Wed.	2—4	52	1845	1053	312	4894		35.48	20.25	6.00	94.11			
Denby Dale															
DENBY DALE Victoria Memorial Hall	1st & 3rd Wed.	2—4	24	143	537	152	2846		6.16	22.36	6.33	118.58			
EMLEY Reading Room	3rd Thur.	2—4	12	28	154	44	664		2.33	12.83	3.66	55.33			
SKELMANTHORPE Wesley Reform Chapel	Wed.	2—4	52	384	447	166	2309		7.38	8.59	3.19	44.40			
Holmfirth															
HOLMFIRTH Methodist Sunday School	Thur.	2—4	52	2757	1818	550	7709		53.01	34.96	10.57	148.25			
HONLEY Southgate Methodist Sunday School	Fri.	2—4	51	745	667	166	3199		14.60	13.07	3.25	62.72			
NEW MILL Council Offices	Wed.	2—4	52	1176	810	236	2967		22.61	15.57	4.53	57.05			

<b>FLOCKTON</b> Church School	1st Tue.	2.30—3.30	12	—	41	2	144	—	3.41	0.16	12.00
<b>GRANGE MOOR</b> Upper Whitely County School	Mon.	3.45—4.00	52	153	81	6	283	2.94	1.56	0.12	5.44
<b>KIRKBURTON</b> Drill Hall	Tue.	2—4	48	732	411	145	1853	15.25	8.56	3.02	38.60
<b>KIRKHEATON</b> Council Offices	2nd & 4th Wed.	3—4	23	311	106	36	473	13.52	4.60	1.56	20.56
<b>LEPTON</b> Council Offices	Thur.	2—4	49	359	390	73	1213	7.34	7.95	1.48	24.75
<b>SHEPLEY</b> County School	2nd Wed.	2.30—3.30	23	271	180	37	508	11.78	7.82	1.60	22.08
<b>Meltham</b>											
<b>MELTHAM</b> Baptist Schools	Tue.	2—4	48	1438	566	255	2846	29.95	11.79	5.31	59.29
<b>Saddleworth</b>											
<b>DELPH</b> Independent Sunday School	Tue.	1.30—3.30	48	488	185	65	1077	10.16	3.85	1.35	22.43
<b>GREENFIELD</b> Weslevan Sunday School	Thur.	1.30—3.30	51	705	298	118	1968	13.82	5.84	2.31	38.58
<b>SPRINGHEAD</b> Congregational Sunday School	Fri.	2—4	49	436	350	141	2040	8.89	7.14	2.87	41.63
<b>UPPERMILL</b> Mechanics Institute	Wed.	2—4	52	554	504	219	2603	10.65	9.69	4.21	50.05
<b>TOTALS</b>			901	15568	10490	3173	48467	17.28	11.64	3.52	53.79

## CHILD WELFARE

### Infant Welfare Clinics

There are in the Division 16 Infant Welfare Centres and 1 Weighing Centre. Apart from the Centre at Golcar all are held in hired premises. As the hired premises are only available for sessional use, difficulties are experienced at some regarding access to records and stores at times other than during actual clinic sessions. At others storage facilities are inadequate. All suffer from the disadvantage of being built for some other purpose and improvisation is needed in order to use them for clinic purposes. Equipment has to be brought out before each session and packed away again at the conclusion. This entails much labour on the part of the health visitors. In spite of these disadvantages it is not reasonable to suggest that all centres should be accommodated in premises designed and solely used for clinics. A compromise would be to erect specially designed premises at a central point in each Urban District and to retain some of the outlying premises as monthly and fortnightly weighing centres.

In view of the appointment of an additional full-time Assistant County Medical Officer it became necessary in December, to revise the medical staffing at some of the Clinics and the services of 4 general practitioners who had previously undertaken sessional duties at the Clinics had to be terminated. This step was taken with reluctance as the general practitioners concerned had given loyal and co-operative service over a number of years. Because of these staff changes the Golcar Infant Welfare Clinic is now held on a Monday afternoon with effect from the 1st January, 1956, instead of Wednesday afternoon as heretofore.

The Clinic at Lepton, previously held on a Tuesday afternoon, is now held every Thursday afternoon as from the 1st September, 1955.

Weekly clinic sessions are held at Delph, Golcar, Greenfield, Holmfirth, Honley, Kirkburton, Lepton, Linthwaite, Marsden, Meltham, New Mill, Slaithwaite, Springhead and Uppermill, whilst clinics are conducted twice monthly at Denby Dale and Skelmanthorpe.

During the year 2,250 children were seen and a total of 20,553 attendances were made, details of which are shown in the following table, as compared with 2,502 children and a total of 22,147 visits in the previous year.

Clinic	No. of sess- ions	No. of children who attended and who were born in:—				No. of attendances by children who at date of attendance were:—				Average at- tendance per Session		
		1955	1954	-53	Total	—1	1—2	2—5	Total	—1	1—2	2—5
				1950		yrs.	yrs.	yrs.		yr.	yrs.	yrs.
Delph ... ..	47	19	23	15	57	336	245	426	1007	7.15	5.21	9.06
Golcar ... ..	52	43	67	81	191	998	352	208	1558	19.19	6.77	4.00
Greenfield ...	50	34	15	21	70	553	308	434	1295	11.06	6.16	8.68
Holmfirth ...	51	69	72	134	275	1048	358	467	1873	20.55	7.02	9.16
Honley ... ..	50	50	35	86	171	596	286	294	1176	11.92	5.72	5.88
Kirkburton ...	48	51	83	31	165	1001	217	93	1311	20.85	4.52	1.94
Lepton ... ..	49	53	19	22	94	395	94	82	571	8.06	1.92	1.67
Linthwaite ...	48	21	40	65	126	514	209	307	1030	10.71	4.35	6.40
Marsden ... ..	51	48	49	128	225	792	512	685	1989	15.53	10.04	13.43
Meltham ... ..	47	48	48	91	187	780	300	257	1337	16.60	6.38	5.47
New Mill ... ..	52	35	46	103	184	691	239	431	1361	13.29	4.60	8.29
Slaithwaite ...	50	39	41	61	141	742	407	432	1581	14.84	8.14	8.64
Springhead ...	50	34	43	42	119	792	332	523	1647	15.84	6.64	10.46
Denby Dale ...	24	36	35	23	94	492	185	175	852	20.50	7.71	7.29
Skelmanthorpe	24	21	21	23	65	303	116	46	465	12.63	4.83	1.93
Uppermill ...	52	42	24	20	86	597	411	492	1500	11.48	7.90	9.46
Total ... ..	745	643	661	946	2250	10630	4571	5352	20553	14.27	6.14	7.18

The monthly sessions of the Weighing Centre at Emley have continued, 14 individual children having made 87 attendances, as compared with 21 children making 112 attendances in 1954.

### Premature Babies

During the year 51 babies weighing 5½lb. or less were born in hospitals or nursing homes to mothers normally resident in the Division and 13 were born at home. Of those born at home, 3 died during the first 48 hours and the remaining 10 survived at the end of one month.

Particulars of survival are shown in the following table:—



# THE FATE OF PREMATURE BABIES BORN IN THE DIVISIONAL AREA

Weight Group lbs.	Number of Premature Births						Number Dying (days of survival).														Over 14 up to 28 days	Number Surviving Over 28 Days					Percent- age Survival in 1955	Percent- age Survival in 1954	
	Born Alive						First Week						Second Week									A	B1	B2	C	T			
	Born Dead																												
	A	B1	B2	C	T	Born Dead	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14									
5-5½	9	-	5	13	27	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	-	4	11	23	85.18	100.0	
4½-5	1	-	5	6	12	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	5	11	91.6	97.74	
4-4½	-	-	2	5	7	3	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	5	71.43	66.67	
3½-4	1	-	2	1	4	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	3	75.0	40.0	
3-3½	2	-	2	3	7	1	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	28.57	25.0	
2½-3	-	1	-	1	2	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	50.0	50.0	
2-2½	-	-	-	3	3	3	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	00.0	00.0	
1½-2	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	00.0	00.0
1-1½	-	-	-	2	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	00.0	00.0	
	13	1	16	34	64	18	12	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10	1	13	21	45	70.31	78.57	

Total adjusted live births ..... 1083  
 Number of live premature births ..... 64  
 Percentage of total live births ..... 5.91  
 Number born dead ..... 18

A: Born at home and attended by a midwife.  
 B1: Born in a Private Nursing Home.  
 B2: Born in a Maternity Home.  
 C: Born in a General Hospital.  
 T: Total.

At the end of the year there were 3 midwives who had special training in the care of premature babies, having attended a course at the Sorrento Hospital, Birmingham.

Two premature baby outfits are available in the Division and are kept at the Divisional Health Office, Golcar, and at the Mechanics' Institute, Uppermill. Arrangements are made for the outfit to be conveyed by ambulance to any household where its use is thought to be advisable by the midwife. During the year the outfit at Golcar was called into use on three occasions.

### **Nurseries and Child Minders' Regulations Act, 1948**

One person in the Division is registered as a child minder. She is the proprietress of a small kindergarten school in Saddleworth and the permitted number of children under 5 years of age she may mind is 10. At the end of the year 12 children were in attendance, 5 of them being under 5 years of age.

The proprietress is establishing what is virtually a small kindergarten school and intends to apply to the Ministry of Education for registration as an Independent School in the near future.

There are no day nurseries in the Division provided by the County Council but a private industrial day nursery at Thornleigh Hall, Grotton, Saddleworth, is registered by the County Council and provides accommodation for 6 babies, 22 tweenies and 43 toddlers. Although this nursery is still registered it was temporarily closed down in October owing to trade recession. The firm intend to re-open it at a later date.

These premises were visited by the Department's Medical Staff during the year.

## **SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE**

### **Introduction**

This account of the School Health Service is a Divisional report and is a combination of the reports already presented to the Upper Agbrigg Divisional Executive and the Saddleworth District Subcommittee. The statistics relate to the whole Division.

The policy of visiting each school twice yearly for the purpose of routine medical inspections has continued throughout the Division. As in previous years the defects found which required treatment or observation were mainly defective vision, defective speech, enlarged tonsils and adenoids and minor degrees of flat feet. The ascertainment of affected pupils in need of special educational treatment has continued, 49 cases being added to the list during the year, making a total of 261 at the end of the year.

Whilst it is now much easier to secure the admission of delicate children to Open-air Schools there is still difficulty in placing educationally sub-normal pupils either in special schools or arranging special educational treatment for them in ordinary schools.

### **Schools in the Area**

There are in the Division 79 schools or separate departments, which include the Royd Edge Special School, Meltham.

The approximate number of pupils on the registers in December, 1955 was 11,995 (an increase of 128 as compared with the previous year) and was composed of:—

Infants	Juniors	Seniors
2,949	5,330	3,716

Of the 72 Primary and "Through" Schools 36 are Voluntary and 36 are County Schools.

The distribution is as follows:—

Type of School	Colne Valley		Denby Dale		Holmfirth		Kirkburton		Meltham		Saddleworth		Total	
	Schools	Pupils	Schools	Pupils	Schools	Pupils	Schools	Pupils	Schools	Pupils	Schools	Pupils	Schools	Pupils
Primary ... ..	8	939	9	981	14	1643	13	1409	5	585	11	1226	60	6783
Secondary Modern ...	1	349	1	691	1	566	1	272	—	—	1	374	5	2252
Through ... ..	10	1788	—	—	—	—	1	291	—	—	1	192	12	2271
Grammar ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	635	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	635
Special ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	54	—	—	1	54
All Types ... ..	19	3076	10	1672	16	2844	15	1972	6	639	13	1792	79	11995

Pupils from Colne Valley attend Royds Hall Grammar School and pupils from Saddleworth attend Hulme, Oldham and Manchester Grammar Schools, but so far as the School Health Service is concerned they are the responsibility of the Huddersfield and Oldham County Borough Councils, and of the Medical Officers of the Independent Schools.

Some pupils from outlying parts of the Division attend Grammar Schools at Mirfield, Penistone, etc.

### Medical Inspections

The periodic medical examination of the four age groups, i.e. entrants (5 years +), juniors (7 years +), intermediate (10 years +) and seniors (14 years +) continued throughout the year. In all 157 separate inspections were carried out at the 79 schools in the Division.

As in previous years pupils continuing attendance at school beyond the age of 15 years were given additional routine medical examinations at 16 and 18 years. Re-examinations of children who at previous periodic or special examinations had been found to have defects requiring treatment or observation were made at each school medical inspection.

### Periodic Medical Inspections

During the year 5130 periodic inspections were carried out as compared with 4490 in 1954.

The number of children inspected in the various age groups is as follows:—

Prescribed age groups:—

Entrants	...	...	...	...	1457
7 to 8 year group	...	...	...	...	1642
Last year primary	...	...	...	...	888
First year secondary	...	...	...	...	228
Last year secondary	...	...	...	...	698
Other periodics	...	...	...	...	217
Total	...	...	...	...	5130

### Findings of Medical Inspections

The following figures show the incidence of certain defects in the 5130 children who were examined at the periodic inspections:—

Defect or Disease	No. of Children	
	Treatment	Observation
Nose or Throat	30	320
Speech	13	63
Cervical Glands	6	147
Heart and Circulation	30	54
Lungs	11	117
Orthopædic	193	250
Eyes	56	1075

Further details will be found in the table on Page 28a.

Particulars of the age grouping of children found at periodic medical inspections to require treatment are given below:—

Groups	For Defective Vision (excluding Squint).	For any of the other conditions recorded in table of defects	Total Individual Pupils
Entrants	1	160	150
7 to 8 year group	19	121	133
Last year primary	7	65	71
First year secondary	3	14	17
Last year secondary	5	43	43
Other Periodics	4	15	13
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>418</b>	<b>427</b>

## Defects Found at Medical Inspections

The following table gives details of all defects noted at both periodic and special examinations. All defects noted at medical inspections as requiring treatment are included, whether or not this treatment was begun before the date of inspection.

Defect or Disease.	Number of Defects.			
	Periodic Inspections		Special Inspections	
	Requiring Treatment	Requiring Observation but not treatment	Requiring Treatment	Requiring Observation but not treatment
Skin ....	12	48	3	22
Eyes: (a) Vision ....	39	931	92	680
(b) Squint ....	14	128	10	47
(c) Other.... ....	3	16	—	7
Ears: (a) Hearing ....	8	59	1	36
(b) Otitis Media ....	2	51	—	20
(c) Other.... ....	3	20	2	12
Nose or Throat ....	30	320	55	279
Speech ....	13	63	12	48
Cervical Glands ....	6	147	—	80
Heart and Circulation ....	30	54	3	36
Lungs ....	11	117	3	108
Developmental (a) Hernia ....	1	6	1	10
(b) Other ....	3	89	—	20
Orthopaedic (a) Posture ....	10	30	2	11
(b) Flat Foot ....	100	45	25	30
(c) Other ....	83	175	37	86
Nervous System (a) Epilepsy ....	3	6	—	8
(b) Other ....	28	27	3	33
Psychological (a) Development ....	2	188	—	49
(b) Stability ....	5	49	—	26
Other ....	51	73	18	155
<b>TOTAL ....</b>	<b>457</b>	<b>2642</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>1804</b>

### General Condition of Children

All pupils at routine medical inspections are classified as to their general condition at the time of the inspection as follows:

“A” (Good) = those better than normal.

“B” (Fair) = those normal.

“C” (Poor) = those below normal.



Details of the children inspected during the year are as follows:—

Age Groups	Number of Pupils Inspected	(A) Good		(B) Fair		(C) Poor	
		No.	% of Col. 2	No.	% of Col. 2	No.	% of Col. 2
Entrants .....	1457	686	47.1	748	51.3	23	1.6
7 to 8 year group .....	1642	820	49.9	798	48.6	24	1.5
Last year primary .....	888	395	44.5	479	53.9	14	1.6
First year secondary.....	228	54	23.7	171	75.0	3	1.3
Last year secondary.....	698	278	39.8	408	58.5	12	1.7
Other periodics ....	217	61	28.1	156	71.9	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>5136</b>	<b>2294</b>	<b>44.7</b>	<b>2760</b>	<b>53.8</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>1.5</b>

### Special Examinations

The first time in each year that a child is examined, other than at a routine periodic inspection, is regarded as a "Special Examination." Thus all children with defects which were noted in the previous year and who are seen again are classified as "Specials" at the first examination in each year, and as "Follow-up" at each subsequent examination in the same year. So far as is practicable all children with known defects are examined twice in each year.

### Other Examinations

In addition to routine, special and follow-up examinations of children at school medical inspections, a total of 232 children were examined at home or at school for various reasons. These include non-attendance at school, children returning to special schools, and also those examined with a view to providing special educational treatment.

### Uncleanliness

Methods of dealing with head infestation have continued as described in previous reports. Routine inspections are carried out at all schools as far as possible at least once every term. Parents of children found to be infested with vermin or nits are sent a communication from the Divisional Health Office and where possible visited by the School Nurse. The more heavily infested cases are excluded from school for a few days and if no improvement has been effected by the parents a Cleansing Notice is issued under Section 54 (2) of the Education Act, 1944. The notice informs the parents that the child must be cleansed to the satisfaction of an Authorised Officer of the Authority within 48 hours and failing that, a Cleansing Order may be issued authorising the cleansing of the child by an officer appointed by the Education Authority.

The total number of inspections made was 37,097 and 454 instances of infestation were found as compared with 38,417 and 507 respectively in 1954. There were 308 individual children (2.6% of the school population) found to be infested on at least one occasion, a decrease of 171 as compared with the previous year.

Statistics relating to these inspections are as follows:—

Total number of warning letters sent	...	...	316
Total number of exclusion notices served	...	...	10
Total number of home visits paid	...	...	302
Total number of individual children found to be verminous	...	...	308
Total number of Cleansing Notices issued	...	...	1
Total number of Cleansing Orders issued	...	...	Nil

When a child who has been cleansed by an officer of the Education Authority as a result of a Cleansing Order is found at a subsequent inspection to be re-infested the Authority may take proceedings against the parents under Section 54(3) of the Education Act for allowing re-infestation to take place. There were no prosecutions during the year.

## **Arrangements for Treatment**

### **School Clinics**

There are no special school clinics set up in this Division but minor ailments receive attention and "booster" doses of diphtheria prophylactic are given at 16 Infant Welfare Clinics in the area. During the year a total of 662 attendances were made by school children at such clinics.

### **Special Clinics**

#### **Ophthalmic Clinics**

The arrangements detailed in my report for the year 1950 have continued, Dr. J. V. Kirkwood devoting two sessions per week to clinics in this Division. Additional sessions are arranged when necessary.

During the year 90 special clinic sessions were arranged and these were attended by 985 children who made 1054 attendances. Spectacles were prescribed for 275 children, 441 were found not to require any change, and 269 did not require spectacles.

Cases requiring orthoptic treatment may obtain this either through the hospital service or, if in the Saddleworth Area, they may attend the Orthoptic Clinic, Scottfield, Oldham, which is provided by the Oldham Education Committee. A charge of 5/- per attendance is paid by the West Riding Education Committee.

#### **Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics**

The special Ear, Nose and Throat Clinic for West Riding children conducted by Mr. W. O. Lodge, M.D., F.R.C.S. has been continued at the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary. During the year 3 sessions were held and 46 individual children were seen, 29 being referred for operative treatment.

Children from the Saddleworth area are referred to a special clinic arranged by the Hospital Management Committee at the Oldham and District General Hospital. Of the 32 cases referred 28 were recommended for operative treatment.

#### **Orthopædic Clinics**

The special monthly session for West Riding children conducted by Mr. J. Hunter Annan, F.R.C.S. has continued at the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary. In order to cope with the number of children referred several additional sessions were necessary. At the 16 sessions held during the year 233 individual children made a total of 348 attendances. In addition 15 children from the Saddleworth area were referred to the Gainsborough Avenue Clinic, Oldham.

The conditions for which they were referred were as follows:—

Flat Foot	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Club Foot	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Knock Knee	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Hallux Valgus	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Other Deformities of Toes	...	...	...	...	...	...	49
Fractures	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Postural Deformities	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Other Deformities	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Congenital Conditions	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Perthes Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Tubercular Conditions	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other Conditions	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
							<hr/> 248 <hr/>

### Child Guidance Treatment

Doctor M. M. MacTaggart, the County Psychologist, continued to hold clinics at Wakefield and Mirfield until August, when she resigned her appointment. In October, Doctor S. M. Leese was appointed County Psychiatrist, and treatment was recommenced at the clinics. During the year 31 individual children received treatment.

### Ultra-Violet Ray Treatment

Facilities are now available for treatment by Ultra-Violet Radiation at Golcar, Holmfirth, Denby Dale and Uppermill. Cases for treatment are referred by School and Infant Welfare Medical Officers and by General Practitioners. During the year 92 children received courses of treatment.

### Speech Therapy

Sessions for Speech Therapy have continued throughout the year, these being held at the Divisional Education Office, Huddersfield, the Divisional Health Office, Golcar; The Mechanics' Institute, Uppermill; Council Offices, Honley; Civic Hall, Slaithwaite; Scholes County School and Kirkburton C. of E. School. During the year 195 sessions were held at the various centres. The total number of attendances made by the 118 children was 1378.

This year has seen a great improvement in the service with a clinic held at the Civic Hall, Slaithwaite. This has proved most successful, especially in the group treatment of stammerers. It has also meant that children from that area have not had to travel to Huddersfield for treatment and consequently attendance is much more regular. Co-operation between schools and clinics has improved and the main difficulty facing us now is the very poor attendance of children during school holidays, when the majority of children fail to attend at all. It is hoped to have some improvement in the coming year.

Details of the children treated are shown in the following table:—

No. of new cases treated during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
No. of cases already attending for treatment from previous year	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
Total number of cases treated	...	...	...	...	...	...	118

No. of cases discharged during the year:—	
Speech Normal ... ..	22
Speech improved ... ..	12
Unsuitable for treatment ... ..	2
Left School ... ..	2
By reason of non-attendance ... ..	3
No. of cases awaiting treatment at the end of the year ...	10
No. of visits made to schools ... ..	5
No. of home visits ... ..	2

### Treatment Tables

The following tables give details of treatment given to school-children under the Authority's schemes and otherwise. The treatment provided otherwise than by the Authority includes all treatment known by the Authority to have been so provided, including treatment undertaken in school clinics by the Regional Hospital Board.

#### 1. Diseases of the Skin

	Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year.	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
Ringworm: (i) Scalp ... ..	—	—
(ii) Body ... ..	—	—
Scabies ... ..	—	—
Impetigo ... ..	12	6
Other Skin Diseases ... ..	22	10
Total ... ..	34	16

#### 2. Eye Diseases, Defective Vision, and Squint.

	Number of cases dealt with.	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
External and Other, excluding Errors of Refraction and Squint ... ..	—	28
Errors of Refraction, including Squint ...	—	716
Total ... ..	—	744
Number of Pupils for whom Spectacles were: (a) Prescribed ... ..	—	380
(b) Obtained ... ..	—	380

#### 3. Diseases and Defects of Ear, Nose, and Throat.

	Number of cases treated.	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
Received Operative Treatment:—		
(a) For diseases of the Ear ... ..	—	2
(b) For Adenoids and chronic Tonsillitis ... ..	—	139
(c) For other Nose and Throat conditions ... ..	—	3
Received other forms of treatment ...	26	4
Total ... ..	26	148

#### 4. Orthopædic and Postural Defects.

(a) Number treated as in-patients in Hospitals ... ..	11	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
(b) Number treated otherwise, e.g. in Clinics or Out-Patient Departments	—	20

#### 5. Child Guidance Treatment.

	Number of cases treated.	
	In the Authority's Child Guidance Clinics	Elsewhere
Number of Pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics ... ..	31	2

#### 6. Speech Therapy.

	Number of cases treated.	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
Number of Pupils treated by Speech Therapist ... ..	118	4

#### 7. Other Treatment Given.

	Number of cases treated.	
	By the Authority	Otherwise
(a) Miscellaneous Minor Ailments ...	228	138
(b) Ultra Violet Light ... ..	92	—
Total ... ..	320	138

#### Dental Treatment

With an improved staff of Dental Officers a full dental service has been available for all children attending schools in the Colne and Holme Valleys, Meltham and Saddleworth.

Children from other parts of the Division have received treatment at the Honley, Slaithwaite and Wakefield Clinics on request, although as yet there is no provision for routine dental inspections at schools in Denby Dale and Kirkburton.

Details of the children inspected are summarised below:—

	Honley Clinic	Slaithwaite Clinic	Uppermill Clinic
No. of children inspected ...	3314	2858	1700
No. of children found to require treatment ...	1074	2027	1169
No. of children treated ...	773	1409	792
No. of attendances ... ..	2030	2801	1769

#### Hospital Schools

Children requiring prolonged hospital treatment are now often admitted to special "long-stay" hospitals, many of which have educational facilities which are recognised by the Ministry of Education. They are known as Hospital Schools.



The number of children away at these schools, together with the details of admissions and discharges during the year, is as follows:—

Name of Hospital School	No. of children from this Division	Diagnosis	Date Admitted	Date Discharged
Pinderfields Hospital School, Wakefield	(D.P.)	T.B. Synovitis	8-2-55	7-10-55
	3 (L.H.)	Little's Disease	15-1-53	25-1-55
	(J.L.)	Perthes Disease	15-7-55	—
Leasowe Children's Hospital School, Wallasey	(G.L.)	Cerebral Palsy	30-6-50	26-11-55
	2 (M.K.)	Cerebral Palsy	11-1-46	—
Heritage Craft School, Chailey	(C.P.)	Paresis	26-4-50	—
	2 (S.R.)	Congenital Paraplegia	6-1-54	—
Adela Shaw Orthopaedic Hospital, Kirbymoor-side	(H.N.)	Congenital Spina Bifida	8-10-55	—
	(S.G.)	Perthes Disease	21-5-54	16-7-55
	4 (I.E.)	Perthes Disease	21-5-54	7-12-55
	(A.H.)	Muscular Dystrophy	1-6-55	—
Fielden Long-stay Hospital, Todmorden	(A.M.)	Nephritis	6-54	6-55
	3 (A.S.)	Bronchitis	12-54	8-55
	(S.P.)	Primary Tb.	10-5-55	10-55

### Convalescent Home Treatment

Arrangements are made for selected school children to be sent to Convalescent Homes at the expense of the Education Committee. The children selected are usually suffering from general debility and the need for convalescent treatment is approved by the School Medical Officer before financial responsibility is accepted. These do not include cases admitted to Convalescent Homes through the Hospital Service.

During the year 3 children were sent to the following convalescent homes:—

Craig Convalescent Home, Morecambe	...	...	...	1
St. Joseph's Convalescent Home, Freshfield, near Liverpool	...	...	...	1
Ormerod Convalescent Home, St. Annes-on-Sea	...	...	...	1

### Infectious Diseases

The following table shows the number of confirmed cases of infectious diseases occurring in school children.

There was an increased incidence of Measles during the year when 707 cases occurred as compared with 89 cases in 1954. The cases were widespread throughout the area.

Of the 66 cases of Whooping Cough reported 33 occurred in the Kirkburton U.D.

In all, 85 cases of dysentery were notified amongst school children. The disease was prevalent in the Kirkburton area during the Spring and early Summer, but the main outbreak occurred in the late Autumn and was centred on Kirkburton C. of E. School where 62 cases were confirmed.

SCHOOL	Measles	Whooping Cough	Dysentery	Pneumonia	Scarlet Fever	Poliomylitis	Erysipelas
Clough Head County .....	3	1	1	—	—	—	—
Golcar C. of E. ....	12	—	—	—	—	—	—
Knowl Bank County Infants ...	27	—	—	—	1	—	—
Lingards C. of E. ....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Linthwaite C. of E. ....	4	—	—	—	2	1	—
Linthwaite County .....	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
Linthwaite County Infants .....	17	—	—	—	—	—	—
Marsden County Infants .....	56	4	—	—	1	—	—
Marsden Secondary Modern.....	4	—	—	—	1	—	—
Nields County .....	31	—	—	—	1	1	—
Scammonden C. of E. ....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scapegoat Hill County.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Slaithwaite C. of E. ....	13	1	—	—	—	—	—
Slaithwaite C. of E. Infants .....	30	9	—	—	—	—	—
West Slaithwaite C. of E. ....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wellhouse County .....	2	1	—	2	—	—	—
Wilberlee County .....	16	—	—	—	—	—	—
Birdsedge County .....	4	—	—	—	1	—	—
Clayton West County .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cumberworth C. of E. ....	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Denby C. of E. ....	8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Denby Dale County .....	43	—	1	—	1	—	—
Emley County .....	17	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scissett C. of E. ....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Skelmanthorpe Secondary Modern	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Skelmanthorpe C. of E. ....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Skelmanthorpe County .....	8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brockholes C. of E. ....	4	1	—	—	—	—	—
Hinchliffe Mill County .....	15	2	—	—	—	—	—
Holmbridge C. of E. ....	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Holmfirth County .....	24	8	—	—	3	—	—
Holmfirth Secondary Modern ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Honley C. of E. ....	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Netherthong County .....	16	1	—	—	—	—	—
New Mill C. of E. ....	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
New Mill County Infants .....	6	1	—	—	—	—	—
Scholes County .....	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Upperthong County .....	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wooldale County .....	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Flockton C. of E. ....	15	—	—	—	—	—	—
Highburton C. of E. ....	20	22	2	—	—	—	—
Kirkburton C. of E. ....	8	4	62	—	—	—	—
Kirkburton Secondary Modern ...	—	—	7	—	—	—	1
Kirkheaton C. of E. ....	7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kirkheaton C. of E. Infants .....	30	1	—	—	—	—	—
Lepton C. of E. ....	7	—	1	—	—	—	—
Lepton County Infants .....	25	4	1	—	—	—	—
Lepton County .....	6	2	1	—	—	—	—
Shelley C. of E. ....	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Shelley County .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shepley County .....	36	—	—	—	1	—	—
Upper Whitley County .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Helme C. of E. ....	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meltham C. of E. ....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meltham C. of E. Infants .....	8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meltham Mills C. of E. ....	25	—	—	—	1	—	—
Delph County Primary .....	32	—	—	—	1	—	—
Denshaw C. of E. ....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diggle County .....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Dobcross C. of E. ....	14	—	—	—	1	—	—
Greenfield St. Mary's .....	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Greenfield County .....	28	—	—	—	6	1	—
Lydgate C. of E. ....	19	—	—	—	4	—	—
Saddleworth Parochial .....	6	—	—	—	2	—	—
Scouthead C. of E. ....	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Springhead County .....	3	—	4	—	—	—	—
Uppermill Secondary Modern ...	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
TOTAL .....	707	66	85	3	29	3	1

In addition the following cases of other infectious diseases were reported by various Head Teachers.

German Measles	...	...	57	Chicken Pox	...	...	178
Impetigo	...	...	8	Mumps	...	...	22
Jaundice	...	...	2				

In December a small outbreak of Winter Vomiting involving 15 children occurred at Lepton County Infants School.

### Diphtheria Immunisation

The previous arrangements for diphtheria immunisation have continued, the injections being given by private practitioners and at the Welfare Centres, and special immunisation sessions have been held at various schools.

The majority of children are now immunised before entering school. This should always be the case and the importance of immunisation in infancy cannot be over emphasised. Children protected in infancy should have booster injections when they commence school and five years later.

The following figures indicate the number of children who received primary immunisation after entering school and also the number receiving re-inforcement injections:—

	Primary Immunisations	Re-Inforcement Injections
Colne Valley ... ..	34	355
Denby Dale ... ..	33	93
Holmfirth ... ..	54	413
Kirkburton ... ..	115	425
Meltham ... ..	—	18
Saddleworth ... ..	1	25
	<hr/> 237	<hr/> 1329

### B.C.G. Vaccination

In accordance with the County Council's scheme for the prevention of Tuberculosis, arrangements were made to offer B.C.G. Vaccination to all children aged 13-14 years. Vaccinations were carried out during April and November, and in all 246 were vaccinated.

Details are given below of the work undertaken during the year:

No. of children offered B.C.G.	...	...	...	768
No. of acceptances	...	...	...	484
No. completing skin testing	...	...	...	465
No. Positive	...	...	...	209
% Positive	...	...	...	45
No. Negative	...	...	...	249
No. Vaccinated	...	...	...	246

### Protection of Children against Tuberculosis

In order to lessen the possibility of children coming in contact with cases of active Tuberculosis, the Ministry of Education require all new entrants to the teaching profession to undergo an X-ray examination of the chest before taking up their duties. The County Council have also agreed that the same requirements shall apply to the non-teaching staffs of schools, including part-time workers in the school

meals service. The examinations are arranged by the Department with the nearest Mass Radiography Unit available. In addition, all teachers and non-teaching staff are urged to take advantage of the facilities provided by the Mass Miniature Radiography Service for periodic examination. Special sessions are arranged for staff at each visit of the Unit to the area.

In January, 1955, notification was received to the effect that a male teacher at a Secondary Modern School was suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. After consultation with the Consultant Chest Physician and the Medical Officer in charge of the Bradford Mass Radiography Unit, it was agreed that X-ray examination should be offered to all the children and staff likely to have been contacts. Transport was arranged and 133 pupils and 11 staff attended for examination. Fortunately, no cases of tuberculosis were found.

### Deaths in School Children

During the year 4 deaths were registered amongst school children (2 boys and 2 girls) aged 9 to 12 years. The following are brief details

Sex and Age	Area	Cause of Death
1. Girl aged 11	Colne Valley	1(a) Cachexia. (b) Neuroblastoma and multiple secondary deposits in liver.
2. Boy aged 12	Holmfirth	Carbon monoxide (coal gas) poisoning accidentally sustained.
3. Girl aged 11	Kirkburton	1(a) Acute Myeloblastic Leukaemia
4. Boy aged 9	Meltham	Comminuted fracture of skull and laceration of the brain sustained when struck by a motor bus.

### School Meals Service

School meals are available at all schools in the Division. In some instances they are cooked in the individual school premises and in others are brought ready cooked from other school canteens. The meals are well cooked and varied. The number of pupils who take school meals varies much from school to school. In some almost 100% stay for school dinner whilst at others less than half have the meal. Each school child is entitled to  $\frac{1}{3}$  of a pint of milk daily free of charge. Here again many children particularly the older ones, refuse to accept what is provided for their own benefit.

At the end of the year 345 children (2.9% of the school population) were receiving meals at the expense of the Education Committee as compared with 308 (2.6%) in 1954. The number of children taking school meals was 7291 (60.8% of the school population) compared with 6616 (55.8%) in 1954. A total of 8245 (68.7%) were having school milk compared with 7985 (67.3%) in 1954.

In order to supplement the diet of infants Vitamin A and D capsules are offered in schools to children of 7 years and under, and orange juice is offered to children under 5 years of age.

New entrants to the staffs of school canteens are examined by the Department's Medical staff. During the year 55 new entrants were examined and in each case a certificate to the effect that the examinee was fit to work in the School Meals Service was forwarded to the Divisional Education Officer.



## Youth Employment Service

There is close co-operation between the School Health and Youth Employment Services. The medical records of all school leavers are considered by the School Medical Officer before the pupils are interviewed by the Youth Employment Officer and types of work for which any child is, in the opinion of the Medical Officer, unsuited, are pointed out.

During the year recommendations were made that 67 children should not be employed in one or more of the following categories of work.

1.	Heavy manual work	...	...	...	...	...	8
2.	Work in dusty atmosphere	...	...	...	...	...	3
3.	Work involving normally acute vision...	...	...	...	...	...	12
4.	Work involving normal colour vision	...	...	...	...	...	23
5.	Work at heights	...	...	...	...	...	3
6.	Work near moving machinery or moving vehicles	...	...	...	...	...	19
7.	Work involving prolonged standing, much walking or quick movement from place to place	...	...	...	...	...	1
8.	Work requiring freedom from damp hands or skin defects	...	...	...	...	...	1
9.	Work in a damp atmosphere	...	...	...	...	...	1
10.	Work involving normal hearing	...	...	...	...	...	2
11.	Work involving exposure to bad weather	...	...	...	...	...	2

The more seriously handicapped children are recommended to the Youth Employment Officer for inclusion in the Disabled Persons Register.

It is disappointing to report that in spite of the recommendations of the Youth Employment Officer and the School Medical Officer some pupils still take up work in unsuitable occupations.

In connection with the Employment of Children Bye-Laws 44 children were examined as regards their suitability for employment outside school hours. Certificates were granted for employment as follows:—

Newspaper Delivery	...	...	...	...	35
Errand Boy	...	...	...	...	1
Shop Assistants	...	...	...	...	5
Packer	...	...	...	...	1
Labourer	...	...	...	...	1
Entertainment	...	...	...	...	1

### Handicapped Pupils

Early ascertainment of Handicapped Pupils is one of the most important functions of the School Health Service.

A register is maintained of all pupils, who owing to some mental or physical disability require special educational treatment.

During the year 84 pupils have been examined with reference to their need of special educational treatment, and recommendations for the provision of same were made in 49 cases. During the year 33 children were removed from the register as no longer requiring special educational treatment, or because they were over school age.



At the end of the year 261 pupils were included in the register, the sub-division into the various classes being as follows:—

Maladjusted	...	...	...	...	...	6
Partially Deaf	...	...	...	...	...	2
Deaf	...	...	...	...	...	9
Delicate	...	...	...	...	...	13
Speech	...	...	...	...	...	61
Partially Sighted	...	...	...	...	...	3
Blind	...	...	...	...	...	1
Physically Handicapped	...	...	...	...	...	25
Educationally Sub-normal	...	...	...	...	...	141

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The increased provision by the Education Committee of residential school accommodation for Handicapped Pupils has enabled an increasing number of children to receive the special educational treatment they require. In addition arrangements made with the Oldham Education Authority for the admission of suitable children to their Special Day School for educationally sub-normal children at Chaucer Street, Oldham have continued. The facilities available, however, are still inadequate, particularly for Educationally Sub-Normal pupils, 28 of whom are waiting for admission in special schools, and 88 for special treatment in ordinary schools at the end of the year.

At the beginning of the year 48 children were in attendance at Special Schools and 34 children (12 educationally sub-normal, 5 delicate, 10 physically handicapped, 4 deaf, 3 maladjusted) were admitted during the year. There were 24 discharges (9 delicate, 7 physically handicapped, 7 educationally sub-normal, 1 deaf) leaving a total of 58 children in attendance at Special Schools at the end of the year, the details being as follows:—

Category	No.	Away	Location of Special School
Blind	1		Yorkshire School for the Blind, York.
Maladjusted	3		1 at Wennington Hall School, Hornby. 2 at Hooper House School, Wentworth, near Rotham.
Partially Sighted	3		3 at School for Partially Sighted Children, Fulwood, Preston.
Deaf	8		1 at Lawns House School, Leeds. 2 at Royal Residential School for the Deaf, Manchester. 2 at Odsal House School for the Deaf, Bradford 2 at Yorkshire Residential School for the Deaf, Doncaster.
Delicate	5		1 at Beever Street Day School, Oldham. 2 at Netherside Hall School, Grassington. 2 at Ingleborough Hall School, Clapham. 1 at Oak Bank Open Air School, Sevenoaks, Kent.
Educationally Sub-normal	25		4 at Royd Edge, Meltham. 5 at Baliol School Sedburgh. 4 at Springfield Special School, Horsforth. 1 at Rossington Hall Special School, near Doncaster. 1 at Whinburn School, Keighley. 1 at Beechwood Boarding School for Senior Girls, Liverpool. 1 at Maghull Home for Epileptics, Liverpool. 1 at Newton-Dee House, Bielsdale, Aberdeenshire. 7 at Chaucer Street Special School, Oldham.

Physically	13	4 at Holly Bank School, Huddersfield.
Handicapped		1 at Leasowe Children's Hospital School.
		2 at Heritage Craft School, Chailey, Sussex.
		1 at National Children's Home, Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire.
		1 at Pinderfields Hospital School, Wakefield.
		1 at White Ness Manor Special School, near Broadstairs.
		2 at Adele Shaw Orthopaedic Hospital, Kirby-moorside.
		1 at Derwen Cripples Training College, Oswestry

There were 10 physically handicapped children who were receiving special educational treatment in ordinary schools, where they were considered to be suitably placed.

At the end of the year 35 pupils in the following groups were awaiting placement in Special Schools or Hostels:—

Maladjusted	...	...	...	...	2
Delicate	...	...	...	...	1
Educationally Sub-normal			...	...	28
Physically handicapped	...	...	...	...	2
Deaf	...	...	...	...	1
Partially Deaf	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/> 35 <hr/>

### Audiometric Survey

During the year, there was an opportunity to use a gramophone audiometer in the Division.

I am indebted to Dr. K. M. C. Haigh for the following report:—

“It was decided to test the hearing of children born in 1946 and who were therefore 8-9 years old. This age group is recommended by the Advisory Council on Education in Scotland in their report on ‘Pupils who are Defective in Hearing,’ and was considered by them to be the most advantageous time for testing with the gramophone audiometer. However, it soon became apparent that some of the children were failing the test for reasons other than defective hearing. It was possible to test 20 children at a time using the gramophone audiometer but owing to the widespread nature of the Division it was very difficult to arrange any uniformity of conditions for the test. The smaller village schools giving much better results than the larger and more overcrowded schools in the built up areas. It was also noticed that the intelligent children did much better and were able to understand the test quicker and pass first time.

A total of 833 children completed the first test, and of these 308 were referred for re-testing. It was, however, only possible for 278 children to complete the second test, the remaining 30 being absentees from school, either because they had left the district or because of illness. At one school an outbreak of dysentery coincided with the second test.

Details are given below of the children who completed both tests:

GROUP TESTING — TEST I					GROUP TESTING — TEST II										
Failures I					Failures II										
Total Tested	One Ear	Both Ears	Total Ref. for Test II	% of Total Tested	Total Tested	18 db +	15-17 db	12-14 db	9-11 db	Total	% of total in Test I	Both Ears Failures		Total Failures	
												No.	% of Test I	No.	% of Test I
803	192	86	278	34.6%	278	6	6	30	16	58	7.2%	10	1.2%	68	8.5%

Conclusions: Of the 803 children who completed both tests 34.6% had some impairment in one or both ears at the first test and this high figure was evidently due to external factors, as the percentage was reduced to 7.2% in the second test. From this group 68 children are awaiting further testing on the Pure Tone Audiometer. The ten children who failed twice in both ears are to be seen at the Routine Medical inspections by the School Medical Officer. One of these who had already had an adenotonsillectomy is awaiting admission to hospital for further investigation.

In this Division where there are several small village schools, much of the Health Visitors' time is taken in travelling from school to school and setting up the apparatus for perhaps only 20 children. It would appear from this point of view to be more economical to test the children of 11 years in the Secondary Schools. However, those with defective hearing would have lost a considerable amount of their education in the intervening 3 years and therefore it is important that the assessment should be made as early as possible.

### **The Children's Home, The Leas, Scholes**

The Leas Children's Home at Scholes has accommodation for 97 children and consists of a large hall and six cottages, each of which are equipped to take 12 or 14 children under the care of a Foster Mother.

During the year considerable difficulty has been experienced in obtaining resident staff and because of this three of the cottages have had to be closed with a consequent reduction in the places available for children. At the end of the year 70 children were in residence.

The medical treatment of the children accommodated in the Homes is delegated to a private practitioner with whom the children are registered under the National Health Service Act, 1946. The Divisional Medical Officer is responsible for administering the preventive medical services of the Local Authority so far as the children are concerned.

Each child is examined by a Medical Officer of the Local Authority on admission and at 6 monthly intervals. Advice is given regarding precautions to be taken against the spread of infectious diseases, times of rest, etc.

Cases of difficult behaviour, etc. are discussed with the Superintendent Children's Officer and County Psychologist, and during the year 5 children attended the Child Guidance Clinic at Mirfield regularly.

A large number of the children are educationally retarded. At the local County School there is a special class for backward children and the younger children at the Home receive benefit from this. On examination the number found to be educationally subnormal was 13. During the year 4 of these reached school leaving age and were notified to the Local Health Authority under Section 57(5).

### **Nortonthorpe Hostel for Maladjusted Boys**

Nortonthorpe Hostel, Scissett, was opened on the 26th April, 1954, as a hostel for Maladjusted Boys with accommodation for 24 children. At the end of the year 14 boys were in residence none of which were from this Divisional area.

The boys attend the local schools, being of an intelligence capable of benefitting from attendance at an ordinary school.

The purpose of the Hostel is to provide a stable and pleasant background for these socially insecure children, and so enable them to mature and eventually to return to their own homes without breaking down.

### **Home Tuition**

Under Section 56 of the Education Act, 1944, education otherwise than at school may be provided for children who by reason of extraordinary circumstances are unable to attend a suitable school for the purpose of receiving primary or secondary education. This education is provided for the following classes of handicapped children:—

1. Children in hospitals where there are not ordinarily enough children to warrant the establishment of a hospital special school.
2. Children who are educable but whose condition is such that it is inadvisable to send them to school.
3. Children awaiting a vacancy at a special school.

In order to advise whether home tuition is required such cases are examined by the School Medical Officer or the Educational Psychologist.

### **Reports to the Local Health Authority: Education Act, 1944, Section 57**

During the year 2 children were reported to the Local Health Authority as "ineducable" under Section 57(3). In addition 7 children were notified to the Local Health Authority under Section 57(5) as requiring care and supervision after leaving school.

### **Medical Examination of Teachers and Entrants for Courses of Training**

Since April 1st, 1952, it has been the duty of the School Medical Officer of the area in which they reside to examine candidates applying for entry to training colleges, etc., for the purposes of satisfying the college authorities of their fitness to follow a course of teacher training. During the year 54 candidates (11 males, 43 females) were examined and a report on Form 4 R.T.C. completed and forwarded to the appropriate college authority. In the majority of cases an X-ray examination of the chest was undertaken through the Miniature Mass Radiography Service.

Entrants to the teaching profession completing an approved course of training are examined by the college medical officer but in other cases the examination is now undertaken by the School Medical Officer of the employing authority.

During the year 5 (1 male, 4 females) reports on Form 28 R.Q. were forwarded to the Ministry of Education.

### **Liaison with Hospitals and General Practitioners**

It is pleasing to report that much more information is now being obtained from the hospital service regarding school children who receive treatment in hospital. Recommendations for special educational treatment for handicapped children are also made by the Hospital Consultants.



Under an Agreement with the British Medical Association and the Society of Medical Officers of Health, children found at school suffering from defects requiring specialist advice or treatment are notified in the first instance to the family practitioner before an appointment at the Consultant's Clinic is arranged. By this arrangement the family practitioner is kept informed of defects found amongst his patients and copies of the Consultant's report are sent to him.

### Sanitary Conditions of School Premises

On the whole the schools in the Division are kept in a good state of repair but owing to their age some of them are lacking in the provision of adequate washing facilities and satisfactory sanitary conveniences. Many improvements have been made in recent years and others will be carried out as soon as practicable.

### HEALTH VISITING

#### Staff

The changes during the year were the appointment of one new Health Visitor in July, and the resignation of another in October in order to take up combined duties in Cambridgeshire. The staff therefore remains numerically unaltered with one Superintendent Health Visitor and 16 Health Visitors including one part-time, and one part-time Assistant Health Visitor.

In the Saddleworth Urban District where the establishment provides for 4 Health Visitors, only 3 are employed and of these one was absent through sickness for over 3 months and one absent through sickness for over 4 months. Thus it will be seen that only 2 Health Visitors were on duty for most of the time.

Urban District	Authorised Establishment	Staff at 31-12-55
Superintendent Health Visitor ... ..	1	1
Colne Valley ... ..	4	4
Denby Dale ... ..	2	1½
Holmfirth ... ..	4	3
Kirkburton ... ..	3	2½*
Meltham ... ..	1	1
Saddleworth ... ..	4	3
Assistant Health Visitors ... ..	—	1†
Tuberculosis Visitors ... ..	1	—
	20	17

\* Includes 1 part-time.

† Part-time.

Owing to the National shortage of health visitors and the reduced number of nurses presenting themselves for training, it is doubtful when the present vacancies will be filled.

The tuberculosis work continues to be carried out by the "all-purpose" health visitor and whilst this system does present minor problems, on the whole it proves satisfactory and does reduce the number of visitors to the home.

#### Courses

Four health visitors attended a special course for health visitors, held at Grantley Hall on "The Technique of Teaching." Two health visitors attended a post-refresher course in Cambridge during July.

## **Student Health Visitors**

Because of the reduced number of nurses in training, no students were received during the year from Leeds, but four students came from Manchester for practical experience in a rural area.

## **Toddlers Clinics**

The examination of the three year old toddler has continued to be extremely popular. The sessions are held at most of the 16 clinics either periodically as a separate session, or several toddlers are invited to attend each week for examination immediately prior to the Infant Welfare consultation. It is hoped that by the end of 1956, every three year old will have received an invitation to attend for examination.

## **School Nursing**

Health Visitors spend a considerable portion of their time in schools, carrying out medical inspections, with the medical officer; hygiene inspections, follow-up work and teaching where requested and able to do so. Home visiting to school children accounted for 1,601 home visits. How much of this work, especially in the schools, could and should be relegated to a lesser qualified person is a matter for serious discussion.

## **Care of the Aged and Chronic Sick.**

Health Visitors are finding themselves more and more drawn into this branch of work, partly through the home help service and partly through cases referred from other sources. Apart from services rendered by the home helps, many of these old people suffer from extreme loneliness, even within their own family circle, when all too often they are made to feel that their room is preferred to their presence. A great deal is being done through the Old People's Welfare Committees and in some areas visiting committees have been formed. It must be stressed that the home visiting is equally, if perhaps not more important than some of the functions organised for the aged, for example, where it is the practise to send out teas to the old people unable to attend a party, it would be enjoyed much more if shared with someone else and conversation could be added to the meal. A wireless loaned to an old gentleman has given him a new interest in life—plain knitting to an old lady has made her feel important. Small things to us — major incidents in the life of the lonely aged.

In a very large number of cases the relatives fail to accept their moral obligations thus it falls to the lot of the health visitor to call in all the assistance she can — especially with the border-line case who does not qualify for accommodation in an Old Person's Home and is not ill enough to be admitted to hospital. In this respect a very deep appreciation is felt for those Old People's Welfare Committees who co-operate in such an excellent manner and who would welcome volunteers for the home visiting committees.

## **Problem Families**

A great deal of time, including evening work, is spent on these so-called "Problem Families" who are so quickly criticised and the children often penalised and shunned by the surrounding neighbours. It is the duty of the health visitor to watch for the early signs of a family deterioration and call in the appropriate expert when necessary.

Appreciation is expressed by the health visiting staff for the help received from the Children's Department and the various voluntary organisations which have been called upon from time to time, especially the individual who has taken a very personal interest in any one family and has "kept an eye on things" during intermediate periods. During the year, one mother was admitted with her two children to Spofforth Hall and during the absence of the local health visitor, who was on sick leave, the Superintendent Health Visitor did a great deal in co-operation with the Children's Department and other official and voluntary bodies in the rehabilitation of this family.

The following table shows particulars of the visits made by Health Visitors during the year.

District	Expectant Mothers		Children under 1 year of age		Children Between Ages		Other Cases	Total Visits
	First Visits	Total Visits	First Visits	Total Visits	1—2	2—5	Total Visits	
Colne Valley	39	82	258	2876	1631	2257	1335	8181
Denby Dale	3	5	107	594	288	451	697	2035
Holmfirth	7	25	272	1933	738	1099	1302	5097
Kirkburton	58	107	184	1697	888	1344	1893	5929
Meltham	44	52	69	406	135	251	536	1380
Saddleworth	10	18	131	1075	731	531	1296	3651
Division 20	161	289	1021	8581	4411	5933	7059	26273

In addition 1,601 home visits were paid to school children in connection with follow-up work from routine medical inspections, hygiene inspections, handicapped pupils, etc.

The visits shown in the above table include 7,362 of a non-routine nature, an analysis of which is as follows:—

Premature Babies	...	...	...	...	...	15
Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	7
Infant Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	12
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	273
Care and After-Care—						
Tuberculosis Patients	...	...	...	...	...	1001
Tuberculosis Contacts	...	...	...	...	...	560
Discharged from Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	66
Others	...	...	...	...	...	229
Post Natal	...	...	...	...	...	22
						1878
Home Help Service	...	...	...	...	...	2492
Aged	...	...	...	...	...	1471
Other Visits	...	...	...	...	...	481
Special Visits (not homes)	...	...	...	...	...	733
						7362

## HOME NURSING

At the commencement of the year 11 home nurses, 7 nurse-midwives, and 3 relief nurse-midwives were engaged in the Division. During the year 4 home nurses, 2 nurse-midwives, and 2 relief nurse-midwives resigned their appointments whilst 4 home nurses, 3 nurse-midwives and one relief nurse-midwife were appointed.

The establishment of home nurses approved by the Ministry of Health under the National Health Service Act and the staff position at the end of the year are as follows:—

Urban District	Authorised Establishment	Staff at 31st Dec., 1955	
		Home Nurses	Nurse-Midwives
Colne Valley	3	3	1
Denby Dale	2	1	2
Holmfirth	2	4	—
Kirkburton	3	1	2
Meltham	1	—	1
Saddleworth	3	2	2
Relief	1	—	2
<b>Division 20</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>10</b>

Particulars of the work done in the various districts by the home nurses and nurse-midwives are shown in the following table. The amount of work done by the home nurses still varies considerably and further readjustment of districts is required as soon as this can be arranged.

	Home Nursing			Midwifery	
	Transfers	New Patients	Visits Paid	Confinements	Visits Paid
<b>COLNE VALLEY URBAN DISTRICT</b>					
Golcar .....	23	197	2,944	6	132
Marsden .....	23	96	1,901	13	516
Linthwaite and Slaithwaite .....	72	400	6,237	16	453
	118	693	11,082	35	1,101
<b>DENBY DALE URBAN DISTRICT</b>					
Denby, Cumberworth and Clayton West .....	26	150	2,883	19	612
Emley, Skelmanthorpe and Scissett .....	32	131	3,515	24	665
	58	281	6,398	43	1,277
<b>HOLMFIRTH URBAN DISTRICT</b> ....					
Holmfirth .....	36	109	2,771	—	—
New Mill .....	22	124	2,480	—	—
Honley .....	26	112	2,211	—	—
	84	345	7,462	—	—
<b>KIRKBURTON URBAN DISTRICT</b>					
Kirkheaton, Lepton & Flockton	39	228	3,591	3	138
Kirkburton .....	16	75	2,399	14	409
Shelley and Shepley .....	24	67	2,295	16	595
	79	370	8,285	33	1,142
<b>MELTHAM URBAN DISTRICT</b>					
Meltham .....	11	88	1,628	11	419
<b>SADDLEWORTH URBAN DISTRICT</b>					
Delph, Dobcross, Denshaw, Scouthead .....	31	115	3,772	17	482
Springhead, Lydgate, Austerlands, Grotton .....	16	45	2,092	10	399
Greenfield, Diggle, Grasscroft, Uppermill .....	19	107	2,587	3	113
	66	267	8,451	30	994
<b>Total for Division</b> ....	<b>416</b>	<b>2044</b>	<b>43,306</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>4,933</b>



## Cases Treated

As in previous years, the types and duration of cases treated during the year have been analysed. There is considerable variation between the different districts. In some, the nurse's time is largely devoted to attendance on the chronic sick, whilst in other districts many acute medical and post-operative surgical cases receive attention. Increased use is also being made of home nurses by general practitioners for the administration of drugs by injection, and particularly of penicillin and streptomycin.

At Emley it has been customary for some time past for the nurse to hold morning and evening dressing sessions at her home. This has continued and during the year patients suffering mainly from minor injuries have made 138 attendances.

## Cases Discharged

Of the 1641 cases the nurses ceased to attend during the year, 1220 were discharged as recovered, 149 were transferred to hospital, and 272 died.

The tables given below show the duration of treatment and the number of visits paid to patients in each group.

Patients under Treatment	Patients.		
	Recovered	Transferred	Died
Less than 1 week ....	500	58	88
1- 2 weeks ....	444	39	67
2- 4 weeks ....	151	12	43
4-13 weeks ....	56	17	32
3- 6 months ....	36	9	21
Over 6 months ....	33	14	21
<b>TOTAL</b> ....	<b>1 220</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>272</b>

Number of Visits Paid	To Patients Who		
	Recovered	Transferred	Died
3 or less ....	117	23	35
4- 7 ....	466	41	60
8-15 ....	415	39	77
16-30 ....	149	19	46
31-50 ....	45	15	30
51-75 ....	15	6	8
76-100 ...	5	3	8
Over 100 ....	8	3	8
<b>TOTAL</b> ....	<b>1,220</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>272</b>



# Types of Cases Attended

The cases attended and the total visits paid have, as last year, been analysed.

Type of Case	Transferred	New Cases	Visits Paid
Infectious .....	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	8	19	821
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	2	6	188
Influenza .....	—	2	7
Pneumonia .....	2	66	610
Bronchitis .....	5	150	1508
Other Respiratory Diseases .....	—	17	74
Cancer of Uterus .....	2	2	66
Cancer of Stomach and Intestines .....	6	18	425
Cancer of Breast .....	1	9	527
Cancer of Other Sites .....	8	49	1,505
Diabetes .....	7	11	1,929
Cerebral Hæmorrhage .....	22	115	3,266
Diseases of Heart and Circulation .....	54	154	4,641
Post-Operative Dressings .....	10	101	1,820
Injuries .....	7	102	1,238
Burns and Scalds .....	4	53	598
Septic Conditions (Boils, Abscesses Carbuncles) .....	5	265	2,943
Uterine Prolapse .....	91	32	2,435
Other Gynaecological Cases .....	—	1	2
Male Genito-urinary Conditions .....	7	5	602
Rheumatic and Arthritic Conditions .....	24	31	2,142
Ear and Eye Conditions .....	4	99	1,113
Varicose Ulcers .....	8	29	1,017
Impetigo .....	—	—	—
Other Skin Diseases .....	—	16	237
Chronic Diseases of Nervous System .....	7	3	527
Mastitis .....	1	25	358
Acute Abdominal Conditions .....	—	27	135
Constipation .....	3	68	328
Thrombosis .....	4	48	1,021
Infantile Disorders .....	1	2	58
Circumcision .....	1	62	485
Senility .....	56	125	5,468
Other Conditions .....	66	332	5,212
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>416</b>	<b>2,044</b>	<b>43,306</b>

It will be seen that Septic conditions have again provided the largest number of new cases (265). Diseases of the Heart and Circulation (154) were the next most frequent, followed by Bronchitis (150), Senility (125), Cerebral Hæmorrhage (115), Injuries (102) and Post-operative dressings (101).

New cases of Pneumonia numbered 66.

Patients suffering from the following conditions received the largest number of visits:—

Senility	...	...	...	...	...	5,468 visits
Diseases of Heart and Circulation	...	...	...	...	...	4,641 „
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	3,266 „
Septic Conditions	...	...	...	...	...	2,943 „
Cancer (all sites)	...	...	...	...	...	2,523 „
Uterine Prolapse	...	...	...	...	...	2,435 „
Rheumatic and Arthritic Conditions	...	...	...	...	...	2,142 „

## Travelling Facilities for Home Nurses and Midwives

No serious difficulties have been experienced during the year with regard to transport but one midwife and three home nurses were dependent on public transport as a means of conveyance at the end of the year, when the position was as follows:—

				Using County Cars	Using Private Cars	Dependent on Public Transport
Home Nurses	...	...	...	3	5	3
Nurse/Midwives		...	...	3	7	—
Midwives	...	...	...	—	4	1
				6	16	4

No additional County Cars were allotted for use in the Division and none of the older cars were replaced.

## THE HOME HELP SERVICE

There has been no change in the organisation of the Home Help service or in the conditions whereby the services of a home help can be allocated to a household, full details of which were given in my report for 1954.

It is to be regretted that the number of home helps employed throughout the year fell short of the authorised establishment, this being due to the difficulty in recruiting suitable women to the service. The authorised establishment of home helps was decreased from 30 to 27 giving an average establishment for the year of 28, whilst in terms of full-time home helps the number employed averaged 22.70.

Despite this difficulty 404 cases were provided with home helps as compared with 396 in the previous year, although the time which could be devoted to any particular case was sometimes less than was actually required. Every effort has been made, however, to allocate the services available where they were most urgently needed.

The duration of assistance provided was as follows:—

No. of cases provided with the services of a Home Help for:—					
Under 1 Month	1—3 Months	3—6 Months	6—9 Months	Over 9 Months	Total
106	63	54	35	146	404

Details of the assistance given to the 404 patients in the various categories are shown in the following table:—

Category	Colne Valley		Denby Dale		Holmfirth		Kirkburton		Meltham		Saddleworth		Total	
	No. of Patients	Av. No. of hours per Patient	No. of Patients	Av. No. of hours per Patient	No. of Patients	Av. No. of hours per Patient	No. of Patients	Av. No. of hours per Patient	No. of Patients	Av. No. of hours per Patient	No. of Patients	Av. No. of hours per Patient	No. of Patients	Av. No. of hours per Patient
Maternity (including Expectant Mothers) ...	17	62.89	5	80.60	9	49.75	11	65.63	8	50.81	6	64.16	56	61.31
Tuberculosis ...	1	21.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	244.00	2	132.50
Chronic Sick ... (including aged and infirm) ...	71	117.73	31	116.98	54	158.84	56	157.62	26	119.00	61	179.78	299	145.32
Others ...	12	130.56	2	16.50	11	104.41	6	81.00	3	235.00	13	65.69	47	101.98
Total ...	101	109.07	38	106.91	74	137.48	73	137.46	37	113.66	81	153.70	404	128.57

## National Assistance Acts, 1948—1951

Under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, a local authority may take action to secure removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention. No action was taken under this section during the year.

### Ambulance Service

During the year close co-operation has been maintained with the Superintendent of the Huddersfield Depot and any difficulties of a medical nature arising have been discussed.

The service has worked smoothly throughout the year and complaints have been negligible.

During the year the ambulances from the Huddersfield Depot made 4,206 journeys involving 131,396 miles, and carried 17,649 patients 3,072 of these being stretcher patients. Included in the 17,649 patients carried were 14,633 hospital out-patients. Particulars of the cases carried are given below:—

Accident	...	...	...	...	374
Urgent	...	...	...	...	428
Mental	...	...	...	...	55
Maternity	...	...	...	...	159
Infectious	...	...	...	...	45
General	...	...	...	...	1,955
Out-Patients	...	...	...	...	14,633
					<hr/>
					17,649
					<hr/>

In the Saddleworth Area, the Oldham County Borough Ambulance Service, based at the Central Depot, Council Street, Oldham, provided full ambulance cover for the whole of the Urban District of Saddleworth. All statutory obligations placed on the West Riding County Council by virtue of the National Health Service Act so far as it concerns ambulance work, are carried out by this Service.

For mental cases, County Council ambulances are generally used and the authorised officer comes from Huddersfield with the ambulance he has arranged for the patient's transfer to hospital.

During the year ambulances of the Oldham Service made journeys involving 11,340 miles and carried 1,362 patients and in addition journeys involving 25,843 miles were made by Sitting Case Cars on behalf of 2713 patients. Of the patients carried 144 were classed as accident cases, 134 emergency cases and 3,797 others.

### MENTAL HEALTH

The mental health work in the Division consists mainly of the supervision of defectives under voluntary and statutory supervision and under guardianship orders, and in the provision of reports about the home conditions of defectives, for the information of Hospital Management Committees, when applications for leave of absence or renewal of licence are under consideration. Training in handicrafts of various sorts is also given to suitable patients.



The work is done mainly by the Mental Health Social Worker and by 2 Home Teachers.

Very little has been done regarding the provision of personal histories and background information relating to patients admitted to and discharged from Mental Hospitals, as this work in the Division is largely done by the Social Worker attached to the local Mental Hospital.

There is great difficulty in securing institutional accommodation for those patients whose mental, physical or social conditions make this desirable. As the Local Health Authority no longer provides residential accommodation all that can be done is to make recommendations to the Regional Hospital Board.

During the year 2 children were reported by the Local Education Authority under Section 57(3) as ineducable and 7 under Section 57 (5) as requiring supervision after leaving school. All were placed under statutory supervision. Four adults and 6 children were admitted to institutions during the year and in addition 6 children were accepted for temporary short stay vacancies.

At the end of the year the number of patients under supervision was as follows:—

	Male	Female	Total
Under Guardianship... ..	—	1	1
Under Statutory Supervision ... ..	66	58	124
On Licence from Institutions ... ..	—	3	3
Under Voluntary Supervision and Observation ... ..	10	4	14

Of these patients 6 were in need of institutional care at the end of the year as follows:—

	Male	Female	Total
In urgent need ... ..	3	2	5
Not in urgent need ... ..	1	—	1
Total	4	2	6

The great need of defectives resident at home is facilities for occupational training either at occupation centres or in small groups or individually at home. The siting of occupation centres for the larger scattered Divisions such as No. 20 is very difficult. To serve the whole of this Division the centre would have to be in Huddersfield, but to gather together all the patients from the outlying areas would require the provision of special transport to an extent impracticable at the present time.

Through the kind co-operation of the Huddersfield and Oldham County Borough Authorities a few vacancies have been made available for West Riding patients and at the end of the year 4 patients were in



attendance at the Scarleigh Occupation Centre, Milnsbridge and 4 at the Oldham Occupation Centre. In addition, 2 patients were attending the Oldham Industrial Centre.

The training of smaller groups at the Centres at Linthwaite and Skelmanthorpe has continued under the supervision of the Home Teachers, the number of patients who attended and the number of attendances made being as follows:—

Centre	No. of Sessions	No. of Patients	No. of Attendances	Average No. of Attendances per Session
Linthwaite ...	184	11	948	5.15
Skelmanthorpe	186	14	1256	6.75
Uppermill ...	11	2	13	1.18
Total ... ..	381	27	2217	5.82

Owing to lack of attendance the group training class at Uppermill has been temporarily suspended.

The social activities during the year have included Christmas parties at the Linthwaite and Skelmanthorpe Centres and a visit to the pantomime. All were well attended by patients and their parents from all parts of the Division and were very much appreciated.

#### **Medical Examination for Superannuation Purposes**

New entrants to the County Service are required to undergo a medical examination to see if they are suitable for admission to the Superannuation Scheme, and these examinations have continued to be carried out by the Department's medical staff. During the year 52 such examinations (24 male, 28 female) were carried out.

In addition 3 male members of the County staff who had been off duty through sickness for a considerable period, were examined to ascertain whether or not they were incapable of discharging with efficiency the duties of their employment by reason of permanent ill-health.

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